

# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 449.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]



**LONDON AND LIVERPOOL**  
TEMPERANCE LINE OF PACKETS TO AUSTRALIA; Landing Passengers on the Wharf.  
—These Ships are most complete in every requirement necessary for the comfort of passengers. The regulations secure health, order, comfort and enjoyment to all on board. The following will be despatched as follows:—  
From LONDON, calling at Plymouth—"AUSTRALIA," 1,300 Tons burthen, for PORT PHILLIP and SYDNEY, from the East India Docks. To sail in May.  
From LONDON, calling at Plymouth—"OUDEKIRK," for ADELAIDE and PORT PHILLIP. To sail 15th June.  
From LIVERPOOL—"ORACLE," 2,000 Tons burthen, for PORT PHILLIP.  
These magnificent clippers need only to be seen to establish their claim to superiority, and are expected to make their passage in 80 days.  
The chief cabins are as elegant and commodious as art and experience can make them. The intermediate cabins are large and well ventilated, and fitted to suit the convenience of families or single persons. Baths and washhouses are erected on deck.  
A library of 300 volumes, free to all passengers, is put on board. A minister and surgeon accompany each vessel.  
Terms, from £20 to 25 guineas. Chief cabin, 45 to 50 guineas.  
For the "Handbook for Australian Emigrants" and full particulars, apply to Griffiths, Newcombe & Co., 27, Rood-lane, London, and 13, James-street, Liverpool.

**WANTED, immediately, a FEMALE**  
TEACHER for a mixed School in a large agricultural village.—Address, Rev. G. AMOS, Independent Minister, King's Cliffe, Northamptonshire.

**WANTED, in a Ladies' School, a Pious**  
Lady, (not under 22 years of age,) fully competent to instruct in Music, French, and Drawing in pencil and crayon, and occasionally to assist in the English. A Dissenter preferred.—Address to A. Z., Post-office, Huntingdon.

**WANTED, a Situation as NURSERY**  
GOVERNESS or Companion to a Lady, by a Young Person who is accustomed to the Tuition of Children. Satisfactory references can be given.—Address, A. B., 32, Northampton-square, Goswell-road, London.

**WANTED, by a Respectable Female, forty**  
years of age, a situation as PARLOUR HOUSEKEEPER in a farm house, or tradesman's family. Salary not so much an object as a comfortable home. Good reference can be given.—Address, M. M., Mr. Moyse's, Magdalen-street, Cambridge.

**WANTED, a stout, active YOUTH as**  
an APPRENTICE.—Address, GEORGE DAVIES, fancy bread and biscuit baker and confectioner, 34, Bloomsbury, Birmingham.

**WANTED, immediately, a YOUNG**  
MAN, about the age of twenty, who has had some experience in the FANCY BUSINESS, of good address, to be in the house, where he will be made comfortable. Good reference required. A member of a Congregational Church.—Address, J. F., 25, Lower Parade, Leamington.

**TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, by a respect-**  
able middle aged Man, a Situation of TRUST, or MANAGER to a Branch Establishment. First-class references can be given.—Address, N. B., Post-office, Beverley.

**TO IRONMONGERS' ASSISTANTS.—**  
WANTED, an active and experienced Young Man of good address and character.—Apply to DAVIES and EDWARDS, Ironmongers, Pontypool.

**TO GROCERS.—Wanted a Situation in a**  
General Retail Trade; a small Establishment, where a confidential ASSISTANT is required, would meet the wishes of the Advertiser. Reference to present employer.—Address, "Aspatio," City Reading Rooms, 66, Cheapside, London.

**TO GENTLEMEN Engaged in the City.**  
—TWO BEDROOMS to be let in a quiet part of Brompton. The use of a SITTING-ROOM if required. For cards apply at Walker's, Stationer and Bookseller, Gray's-place, Fulham-road, Middlesex.

**TO CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS.—Wanted,**  
an ASSISTANT, who has served his apprenticeship in the country, and can have satisfactory testimonials. Applications to state age, salary, and references. A Dissenter preferred.

**WANTED, also, a well-educated Youth as**  
an APPRENTICE. Apply, J. B. PRATT, Chemist, Newbury, Berks.

**AS GOVERNESS or TEACHER.—**  
Wanted, a RE-ENGAGEMENT to teach English, the rudiments of Music, French, and the use of the Globes. The advertiser can take the entire care of her pupils, and the most satisfactory recommendation from her last situation will be given. Salary not high.—Address, post-paid, D. F., Mrs. Fairbrother's, 12, Gieble-terrace, Ball's Pond, Islington.

**A RESPECTABLE COMMISSION**  
AGENT required, to obtain Subscribers and extend the circulation of a new Weekly Religious Newspaper of Evangelical principles (the largest and cheapest Religious Newspaper published), to whom a liberal commission will be allowed. Members of some Christian Church preferred. Address, X. N., care of Mr. Eyre, Advertising agent, 19, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, London.

**COLLEGIATE.—The Rev T. T. GOUGH**  
continues to receive Gentlemen desirous of preparing for College or Matriculation in the University of London. Clifton, near Northampton.

**R. SOUL, Parade, Tonbridge Wells, House**  
Agent, Grocer, &c., will be happy to communicate with Families visiting "The Wells," respecting Dwelling Houses, or Apartments. All letters post-paid.

**A RESPECTABLE MAN, age thirty, of**  
good ability and recommendation, wishes for an engagement as COMPANION to a GENTLEMAN, or as butler, manager, steward, clerk, or any such situation requiring the strictest integrity, &c. No objection to travel or go abroad.—Address, W. S., Nonconformist Office, London.

**A WIDOW LADY, of the highest respect-**  
ability and active habits, through a severe reverse of fortune, is necessitated to offer her services in the domestic management of a pious family, where she would feel happy to make herself generally useful (if nothing menial were required), having kept a comfortable home herself. Salary not an object. Most satisfactory references exchanged.—Address, Y. Z., Dr. Drew's, 33, Colet-place, Commercial-road East, London.

**TO MECHANICS' LITERARY INSTI-**  
TUTIONS.—The Rev. T. E. STALLYBRASS, B.A., is DELIVERING LECTURES on RUSSIA and the WAR. For particulars, apply to Mr. S., Stratford, Essex.

**CONGREGATIONAL CHANTING.—**  
TWO LESSONS will be given in the WEIGH-HOUSE CHAPEL, Fish-street, Hill, by C. C. SPENCER, Esq., on TUESDAY EVENINGS, JUNE, 13th and 20th, at 8 o'clock precisely. The Rev. T. BINNEY, in the Chair.  
Admission Free. Book used, the new edition of PSALMS and HYMNS from HOLY SCRIPTURE, which may be had at the doors.

**ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL,**  
HAVERSTOCK-HILL.—THE PUBLIC EXAMINATION of the Children, and distribution of Rewards to old Scholars, intended to have taken place on the 21st of June, IS POSTPONED until after the painting and repairs of the School premises are completed, of which public notice will be given. The Children will leave for the Summer Holidays on the 23rd of June.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.  
Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, June 6th, 1854.

**HER MAJESTY** having graciously in-  
timated her intention of honouring with her presence the OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE on SATURDAY, the 10th of June, the Directors beg to announce that, with the exception of those specially invited to take part in the ceremony, none but Season Ticket Holders will be admitted.

G. GROVE, Secretary.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.—SEASON**  
TICKETS, the holders of which will alone be admitted to the Opening Ceremony, on the 10th of June next, may be obtained on the following terms:—

Single Season Tickets.....£2 2 0 each.  
Do. do. including railway con-  
veyance from London-bridge to the Palace  
and back.....4 4 0 each.

Family Season Tickets, with or without railway conveyance, at a reduction from the above prices, in proportion to the number of tickets taken. These tickets will be admissible on all occasions when the Palace and Park are open to the public until the 30th of April, 1855. Tickets, including railway conveyance, can be had only at the office of the Secretary to the Brighton Railway Company, London-bridge, and at 14, Regent-street. Tickets for the Palace and Park, without railway conveyance, may now be had at the Palace; at the Offices, 3 Adelaide-place, London-bridge, and 14, Regent-street; at the Brighton Railway Terminus, London-bridge; at Sams', 1, St. James's-street; Mitchell's, Bond-street; Gunter's, Lowndes-street; Westerton's, Knightsbridge; Keith, Prowse, and Co.'s, Cheapside; Letts, Son, and Steer's, Royal Exchange; Dawson and Sons', Cannon-street; and Hammond's Advertisement-office, 27, Lombard-street, London; Brill's Royal Baths, Brighton; Wm. Brooks' office, 2, High-street, Southampton; and at Messrs. Smith and Sons' Book-stalls, on the Railways.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.—Admission from**  
12th to 17th June.—During the week immediately following the opening of the Palace, viz., from the 12th to the 17th June, both inclusive, the PALACE and PARK will be OPEN only to the HOLDERS of SEASON TICKETS, and to the public on payment by the latter of 5s. each, exclusive of conveyance by railway.—By order,  
G. GROVE, Secretary.  
May 30, 1854.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.**  
OPENING CEREMONY, June 10, 1854.

1. HOLDERS of SEASON TICKETS only will be admitted.
2. Railway Trains for Season Ticket Holders will leave London-bridge Station every quarter of an hour; and will set down visitors in the wing of the Crystal Palace. The first train will leave London-bridge at 10 o'clock.
3. Carriages will set down at the North and South Transepts. Stabling for 600 horses has been provided. Standing-room for carriages has also been provided.
4. The doors will be opened at 11 o'clock, and visitors will not be admitted after 2.
5. The Central Transept is reserved for the carriages of Invited Guests, and persons with special cards of admission.
6. Season Tickets, price Two Guineas each, are sold at the following places:—The Palace; 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge; 14, Regent-street; Brighton Railway Terminus, London-bridge; at Sams', 1, St. James's-street; Mitchell's, Bond-street; Gunter's, Lowndes-street; Westerton's, Knightsbridge; Keith, Prowse, and Co.'s, Cheapside; Letts' Royal Exchange; Dawson's Cannon-street; and Hammond's Advertisement-office, 27, Lombard-street.

**OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.**  
The following are the arrangements for the admission of the public:

**FIVE SHILLING DAYS.**—On Saturdays the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets of five shillings each, and by tickets to include conveyance by Railway.

**HALF-CROWN DAYS.**—On Fridays the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets of two shillings and sixpence each, and by tickets to include conveyance by Railway.

**SHILLING DAYS.**—Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays will be shilling days. At the gates a payment of one shilling each will admit the public; or tickets entitling the holder to admission to the Palace and Park, and also conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway, from London-bridge Station to the Palace and back, will be issued at the following prices:—

Including First Class Carriage	..... 2s. 6d.
Including Second do.	..... 2s. 0d.
Including Third do.	..... 1s. 6d.

**CHILDREN.**—Children under twelve years of age will be admitted at half the above rates.

**HOURS OF OPENING.**—The Palace and Park will be opened on Mondays at 9 o'clock; on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, at 10 o'clock a.m.; and on Fridays and Saturdays, at 12 o'clock, and close every day an hour before sunset.

**SEASON TICKETS.**—Season tickets are now issued at Two Guineas each, to admit the Proprietor to the Palace and Park on the day of opening, and on all other days when the building is open to the public up to 30th April, 1855.

No season ticket will be transferable or available except to the person whose signature it bears.

**FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.**—Members of the same family, who reside together, have the privilege of taking season tickets for their own use, with or without railway conveyance, on the following reduced terms:

On two tickets, a discount of 10 per cent. on the gross amount; three tickets, a discount of 15 per cent.; four tickets, a discount of 20 per cent.; and five tickets and upwards, a discount of 25 per cent. Families claiming the above privilege, and desiring to avail themselves of it, must apply in a prescribed form, which may be had at the office, 3, Adelaide-place, and at the other offices for tickets. These tickets will be available only to the persons named in such application.

**RAILWAY SEASON TICKETS,** including conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway from London-bridge to the Palace and back, are issued by the London and Brighton Company at their Offices, London-bridge. Single Tickets, £4 4s. each. Family Tickets at the same reduction as above.

**REGULATIONS AND BYE-LAWS.**—All the general provisions and regulations mentioned above are to be understood as being subservient to such special provisions, regulations, and bye-laws on the part of the Railway Company and the Palace Company as may be found necessary to regulate the traffic, and to meet special occasions and circumstances which may from time to time arise.

By order of the Board,

G. GROVE, Secretary.

Adelaide-place, London-bridge, May 11, 1854.

Schedule of Prices of Family Season Tickets.

Without Conveyance by Rail.	Including Conveyance by Rail.
Two tickets.....£3 16 0	Two tickets.....£7 11 6
Three ".....5 7 6	Three ".....10 14 6
Four ".....6 15 0	Four ".....13 9 0
Five ".....7 17 6	Five ".....15 15 0
Six ".....9 9 0	Six ".....18 18 0
Seven ".....11 0 6	Seven ".....22 1 0
Eight ".....12 12 0	Eight ".....25 4 0
Nine ".....14 3 6	Nine ".....28 7 0
Ten ".....15 15 0	Ten ".....31 10 0

Note.—Applications for Single or Family Season Tickets must be addressed to the Secretary, and accompanied by a remittance for the full amount of the tickets asked for, according to the above schedule, in favour of George Fasson, 3, Adelaide-place. Cheques must be on a London Banker, and be crossed with the words "Union Bank of London."

And no application, unless so accompanied, will be attended to.

**OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.—**  
LONDON, BRIGHTON and SOUTH-COAST RAILWAY.  
The NEW BRANCH to the Crystal Palace will be OPENED on the 10th of June, and SPECIAL TRAINS will run from London-bridge at short intervals. Further particulars will be announced without delay.  
FREDERICK SLIGHT, Secretary.  
London Terminus, June 5, 1854.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.—A PUBLIC**  
MEETING of the Shareholders, Exhibitors, Season Ticket Holders, the Friends of Temperance, and the Public, who are opposed to the attempt now being made by the Directors, to annul that clause in the Royal Charter, which forbids the sale of Intoxicating Liquors in the Crystal Palace, will be held in EXETER HALL, Strand, on THURSDAY, JUNE 8th, at Seven o'clock p.m.

The Earl of HARRINGTON in the Chair.

Admission Free. Platform Tickets to be had at 66, Bishopsgate-street, and 337 Strand.

**PILGRIM FATHERS, CROSBY HALL.—**  
The Celebrated Government Prize Picture, of the DEPARTURE of the PILGRIM FATHERS, is now on view for a few days longer, at Crosby Hall (entrance Bishopsgate-street), prior to its leaving England.

Admission on presentation of address cards, from Ten to Five o'clock each day.

**NOTICE.—BERDOE'S VENTILATING**  
WATERPROOF LIGHT OVER COATS resist any amount of rain, without confining perspiration, the fatal objection to all other waterproofs, air-tight materials being unfit, and dangerous for clothing; and being free from vulgar singularity, are adapted for general use, equally as for rainy weather, price 45s. and 50s. A large stock for selection, also, of CAPES, SHOOTING JACKETS, LADIES MANTLES, HABITS, &c.—W. BERDOE, TAILOR, &c., 96, NEW BOND-STREET, and 69, CORNHILL (only).



**REMOVAL.**—The Offices and Book Depot of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE PATRONAGE and CONTROL, are removed to No. 2, SERJEANT'S INN, No 50, FLEET-STREET. May 31st. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

**LECTURES** by Rev. F. D. MAURICE, Chaplain of Lincoln's Inn. A Course of SIX LECTURES will be delivered in WILLIAMS' ROOMS, King-street, St. James's, by the Rev. F. D. MAURICE, on THURSDAY, JUNE 7, at 8 o'clock, and will be delivered at the same hour on the succeeding Thursdays till they are completed. Tickets, 2s. 1s. for the course, or 6d. for each Lecture, may be obtained at Messrs. Spooner's Library, 10, Old Bailey; Messrs. Mudie's Library, 510, New Oxford-street; at Messrs. W. Parker and Son's, Publishers, 445, West Strand; at Mr. Nutt's, Foreign Bookseller, 270, Strand; at Mr. G. Bell's Publisher, 186, Fleet-street, and at Mr. Lumley's, Bookseller, Southampton-street, High Holborn. The Syllabus of Lectures may be had gratis, on application.

**DIORAMAS**, with Instructive Lectures on subjects of Biblical Interest. After the 10th of June, for this season, the DIORAMA OF EGYPT will be discontinued, and the Three of Clock exhibition will stand as follows:—

WEDNESDAYS, NINEVEH the BURIED CITY. SATURDAYS, PALESTINE and the HOLY PLACES. Admission:—Front seats, 2s.; area and gallery, 1s. Schools by arrangement. King William-street Rooms, near Charing-cross Hospital. All the time of the exhibition and on the following days.

**UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.**

**THE NEW ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN, ST. JAMES'S HILL.**—Institution May 15, 1854.

To receive and educate the Orphan through the whole period of Infancy and Childhood, without distinction of age, sex, place, or religious connection.

The GENERAL MEETING and MIDSUMMER ELECTION of this Charity will be held on MONDAY, the 10th of JUNE, at the LONDON Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to receive the report of the domestic and financial state of the Charity, to elect the several officers; to propose certain variations in the rules, and to elect Fifteen Children.

**THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR**

Will take the Chair, at Twelve o'clock, punctually, when business will be transacted, and the poll commenced; to close at Three o'clock precisely. Suitable accommodation will be provided for ladies.

The Elections occur regularly on the 10th Monday in January, and June. Persons desiring to become subscribers on the day of election may vote immediately. Double Proxies can be had at the office, or at the time and place of election. Ladies willing to solicit contributions for the charity, may be supplied with collecting books from the office. Every five guineas so collected entitles to One Life Vote, provided the money is entered in one name only.

**THE BUILDING FUND.**

The Board ask special attention to the fact, that a fund has been opened, under great encouragement, for the purpose of erecting a suitable Asylum for the Orphan family. Nothing is of more importance at the present time. The children are now accommodated in two houses, at a distance from each other, and the lease of the principal house expired at Lady-day, 1857, and both the expense and the difficulty of management are increased by the want of one well-arranged dwelling, adapted to the necessities and comfort of the household. A Special Address is prepared on this subject, and they earnestly request that their friends would put it into circulation. Copies may be had at the office, or will be cheerfully sent as directed by any subscriber.

It may gratify the subscribers to be informed, that a small estate, of a most eligible character, has been purchased in reference to the proposed permanent Asylum. It has, however, consumed what means they possessed, and they cannot prudently make another advance until they are encouraged by the liberal contributions of their friends.

DAVID W. WILKINSON, Esq., Hon. Secy.

Office, 25, Poultry, where Forms of Application for Candidates may be had gratuitously, and every information, on any day, from Ten till Four. Subscriptions most thankfully received. Post-office orders should be made payable to Mr. JOHN GUZNER, Sub-Secretary, and addressed to him at the office of the charity.

**SPECIAL APPEAL.—SOCIETY for the RESCUE of YOUNG WOMEN and CHILDREN.**

OFFICE—11, POULTRY, LONDON.

PRESIDENT—The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury.

VICE-PRESIDENT—Captain Trotter.

TREASURER—Samuel Cuney, Junr., Esq., 65 Lombard-street.

MANAGERS—Messrs. Barclay and Co., 54 Lombard-street.

MANAGING COMMITTEE.

The Rev. John Branch, 120, St. John-street-road, Islington.

The Rev. Robert Maguire, 24, Lonsdale-square.

The Rev. Robert Allais, 27, Doughty-street.

Mr. William S. Gard, 268, Regent-circus.

Mr. Walter Luffbrook, 132, Cheapside, City.

Mr. Thomas Reynolds, 10, Camden-square.

Mr. John Stoveller, 5, Haverstock-terrace, Haverstock-hill.

Mr. Joseph Stevenson, 1, White Hart-court, Gracechurch-street.

Lieut. James Orr, R.N., 47, Camden-square.

Mr. R. P. Kitten, 2, Haverstock-hill.

SECRETARY.

Mr. Daniel Cooper, Surrey Cottage, Hampstead, and 11, Poultry.

The present is a period in which there is a growing sympathy on behalf of destitute and fallen young females, and this Society, although only established in January, 1851, claims some share in producing such sympathy. The Committee feel greatly encouraged by the success of their efforts to rescue the fallen and provide for the destitute, but it is with some regret that they acknowledge having received so little of that encouragement from Protestant Dissenters. Indeed, it is a fact which is palpable, that by the respective ministers of our Congregational and other churches, there is evinced little sympathy for fallen females, and that almost all the efforts hitherto exerted have been mainly upheld by those connected with the Establishment. The Committee have therefore determined to bring the Society's plans before the notice of their Dissenting friends, and they ask for a liberal response.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, occasional papers may be had at the office. Contributions should be sent to any of the officers, above mentioned.—Collecting cards may be had of the Secretary.

**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.**

ATION.—The distinctive features of this Association are:—That all Education should be religious, but, at the same time, so free from sectarian influence as to secure the sympathy and co-operation of all denominations of Evangelical Christians; and that the State, being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to Voluntary effort.

THE COMMITTEE having obtained ELIGIBLE APPOINTMENTS for those Pupils who have recently completed their course of study, have now a few VACANCIES in their Normal School for YOUNG MEN desirous of qualifying themselves for SCHOOLMASTERS.

The term of instruction is Twelve months, and the Course comprises, in addition to the usual routine of a sound English Education, Latin, Natural Philosophy, Biblical Studies, Singing, Drawing, and School Practice.

HENRY RICHARD, Hon. Secy.  
JOSEPH BARRETT, Hon. Secy.  
7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

**FREQUENT TRAVELLERS** can insure against RAILWAY ACCIDENTS by the YEAR, Terms of Years, or for the Whole of Life, on application to the Booking Clerks at the principal Railway Stations, and at the office of the Railway Passengers' Assurance Company, 3, Old Broad-street. WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

**HOUSEHOLDERS' AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.**—Money received on deposit at 4 per cent interest, payable half-yearly in April and October. RICHARD HOBSON, Secretary. 15 and 16, Adam-street, Adelphi, London.

**BANK OF DEPOSIT.**—New, Pall-mall East, and 7, St. Martin's-place, Trenchard-square, London. Established A.D. 1834.

INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS may be opened Daily, with Capital of any amount. Interest payable in January and July. PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Prospectuses and Forms sent free on application.

**THE LONDON ASSURANCE FREEHOLD LAND BUILDING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETY** combines, in a manner at once novel, effective, and peculiar to itself, the numerous advantages of the Freehold Land Building and Life Assurance Principles. Land shares, £40 each. Monthly, 6s. Building shares, 200 each. Monthly, 10s. Entrance Fees, 1s. per share. Prospectuses and all information may be had of THOMAS ALFRED BURR, Manager. Offices, 29, Moorgate-street, London.

**NATIONAL GUARDIAN ASSURANCE** COMPANY. Chief Office: 16, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON. The Directors of this Company have much pleasure in informing their Clients and the Public that they have opened Branch Offices at 8, Newhall-street, BRISTOL; at Albion Chambers, BRISTOL; 84, Lord-street, LIVERPOOL; 65, King-street, MANCHESTER; 1, Dean-street, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE; 7, Alter Wyndral, HAMBURG; and 25, Queen-street, PORTSMOUTH. Intending members should send for a copy of the last year's report, and also for a copy of the last year's report.

**KENT MUTUAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE SOCIETIES.**

CHIEF OFFICE: No. 6, OLD JEWRY, LONDON.

Right Hon. the Lord Viscount Clarendon, Wilton-crescent, Belgrave-square.

Mr. William Magnay, Bart. and Alderman, Portland Lodge, Guildford, Surrey.

Mr. James Drake, Bart. M.P. and Alderman, Portland Lodge, Guildford, Surrey.

Alex. Bramwell Bremner, Esq., Billiter-square, and West Hall, Mortlake.

William Squire Paine, Esq., Gravesend.

The great success of this Society since its institution will be seen in the following statement:

Year	Number of New Policies Issued	Annual Premiums on Ten Policies	Amounts Assured by New Policies
1850-51	253	2,477 2 2	66,990 8 6
1851-52	127	1,236 15 9	36,749 8 6
1852-53	197	2,387 4 7	69,918 6 0
1853-54	377	5,983 8 4	128,368 8 10
Total	954	11,934 10 8	341,911 8 10

Most moderate Premiums, half of which may remain unpaid, bearing interest at 5 per cent. Policies granted from 25s. and upwards, and for stated periods, the whole term of Life, or assuring payment at specified ages, by Quarterly, Half-yearly, Yearly, or a limited number of Annual payments. No additional charges to persons in the Army, Navy, or Militia, unless in actual service. ALL POLICIES INDISPENSIBLE. Lives declined by other Offices assured at rates commensurate with state of health. Whole Profits divisible triennially among the Assured. Liberty for Foreign Residence and Travel greatly extended, and Emigrants covered, at a very moderate additional charge, against the risks of voyage.

The INDUSTRIAL BRANCH offers peculiarly favourable advantages to the humbler classes for securing, by means of small weekly or monthly payments, the receipt of sums payable at specified ages, or on Death. Claims promptly paid.

**FIRE.**

Right Hon. the Lord Viscount Clarendon, Wilton-crescent, Belgrave-square.

James Boley, Esq., Rochester.

William Squire Paine, Esq., Gravesend.

John Sedgwick, Esq., Gravesend.

Also most reasonable Premiums. Policies issued for small sums, and almost perpetual. Guarantee Fund £100,000. Portion of Premiums periodically returned to the Insured. Last return 25 per cent. Claims promptly paid.

Between 2,000 and 16,000 Policies have been issued by these Societies. Agents are required in various localities, and to whom liberal commissions, &c., will be allowed.

Policies may be effected daily, and Prospectuses, Annual Reports, Proposal Forms, and all other information, will be supplied upon application to the Chief Offices, the Branches, or at any of the numerous agencies throughout the United Kingdom, personally or by letter. GEORGE CUMMING, Manager.

**COALS.** Best 24s. 6d. — R. S. DIXON & SON. Having Colliers which lower their masts and deliver alongside their Wharf, they SUPPLY the BEST COALS direct from the Ship. Providence Wharf, Belvidere-road, Lambeth.

**BEST COALS ONLY.—COCKERELL**

and Co., Coal Merchants to HER MAJESTY.—Cash price 25s. 2s. per ton for screened un-mixed Best Coals (officially certified), to which quality their trade has been exclusively confined for the last twenty years. Since this period last year, Messrs. C. and Co.'s price was lower, freights have risen considerably, and labour, with every other expense pertaining to the working of the mines and to carriage in London, has advanced at least 25 per cent.; and as the present state of things holds out no prospect of any reduction whatever in these additions to the cost of the coals, C. and Co. feel perfectly justified in concluding that 25s. per ton is the lowest price they will be enabled to quote during the year, and in strongly recommending purchases without delay. —Purfleet Wharf, East-street, Blackfriars, and Eaton Wharf, Belgrave-place, Pimlico.

**PATENT PERAMBULATORS.**

C. BURTON, inventor and maker to Her Majesty (by appointment).—The distinguished patronage, the flattering continuance, and the increasing demand, are sufficient proofs of the utility and excellence of these fashionable, safe, and elegant Carriages for adults, children, and invalids. Illustrated Circulars, Shipping Orders. OFFICE, 487, NEW OXFORD-STREET.

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The College, Homerton, May 1854. THE EDUCATOR, No. 1, New Series, containing, in addition to the usual matter, the Report of the Congregational Board of Education for the past year, price 3d. To be had of Ward & Co., London, and of all Booksellers.

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"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 449.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]

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## Eccliaastical Affairs.

### AN EXAMPLE TO MUNICIPALITIES.

EVER since the reform of our municipal bodies, and, probably, as the result of reaction from the tone and tendency of the old, close, and corrupt corporations, it has been the fashion to deprecate, on the part of our town councils, every kind of political manifestation, as foreign to their constitution and their object. The doctrine, true to a certain extent, has, in many places, been pushed to absurd extremes. Municipal bodies have been represented as fit only to superintend such matters as watching, paving, lighting, and draining the respective boroughs they were elected to serve, and as disqualified from pronouncing an opinion upon matters of general policy, interesting, for the time being, the nation at large. If this were true—if the functions of these our local parliaments were really limited to the material improvement of the localities they represent—then it becomes difficult to account for the universally received maxim, that municipal independence constitutes the main bulwark of our national liberties. The primary duties of the bodies to which we refer must, of course, be local, but the efficient discharge of these duties has never yet been found incompatible with the enunciation of decided opinions upon questions of importance affecting the well-being of the entire British public.

No corporate body in these realms, to which powers of local government have been entrusted, can remain indifferent as to the basis upon which our national Universities shall in future repose. Together, they constitute, or, at least, ought to do, the fountain of intellectual life to the whole people. No important locality can fail of being seriously affected by the principles in conformity with which education is dispensed at these national institutions. The civilisation and refinement of our larger towns, the formation and correction of their intellectual tastes, the tone of their higher social circles, and, as a consequence of it, the aspirations and spirit of the broader and lower ones, always have been, and necessarily will be, very much affected by the ideas imbibed in early life by those who receive a University education. Whether, therefore, the advantages of such education shall continue to be confined, as heretofore, within the narrow limits of a sect, comprising less than a third of the whole population—whether they shall be inseparably associated with ecclesiastical narrowness and intolerance—or whether they shall become accessible to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, without regard to their religious belief—appears to our mind a question upon which our municipal councils may legitimately pronounce their opinion, and towards the decision of which they may very fitly bring their influence to bear upon the Supreme Council of the nation.

It is with high gratification, therefore, that we have observed the mootings and decision of this point in the Manchester Town Council during the last week. In a clear, logical, and unanswerable speech, Mr. Councillor Fildes moved:—"That petitions be presented to both Houses of Parliament, under the corporation seal, praying that all ecclesiastical tests for matriculation and degrees at the

University of Oxford, and for degrees at the University of Cambridge, may be abolished." The motion was most ably supported by Mr. Alderman Shuttleworth, Mr. Alderman Bancroft, and Councillors M'Dougall and Clarke, and was carried almost unanimously. We believe this is not the only instance of the kind to which we may refer. If our recollection be not at fault, the municipalities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Worcester, have decided to a like effect: although, of course, the moral influence of Manchester on many accounts renders its testimony to liberal principles peculiarly valuable. To the gentlemen, therefore, who originated and so efficiently carried through this movement, we hold the public to be largely indebted; and we trust that the timely and salutary stimulus thus imparted to a just and truly national cause, will be such as to afford them an ample recompense for any pains they may have been at in the accomplishment of their purpose.

The recent modification of the Oxford University Bill, whereby a considerable number of its remaining clauses are to be dropped, and freer scope be given to the University Commissioners, renders it extremely probable that the question of the abolition of religious tests will be brought before the House of Commons within a few days. The general state of feeling in that House may be described as rather favourable than otherwise to the carrying of Mr. Heywood's clauses. But it is not to be concealed, that her Majesty's Government, pledged, as we understand, to the University authorities at Oxford to resist such a motion, and more anxious to adapt their bill to the known feelings of the House of Lords than to render it just in its provisions, may prevail upon many members, otherwise liberally inclined, to vote against one, if not both, of the propositions to be submitted by the hon. member for Lancashire. So far as we can ascertain, a majority of the House will decide in favour of abolishing tests at Oxford on matriculation, but not on taking degrees—a most unsatisfactory decision, which it behoves the public out of doors, if possible, to prevent. But the question is one which, in the nature of things, cannot hope to be aided by a popular agitation—whilst, on the other hand, its solution largely depends upon an unequivocal demonstration of public opinion. At this juncture, as it seems to us, the interposition of municipal bodies is loudly called for. Upon this point, they may be fairly taken as the truthful exponents of popular sentiment; and if, within the next week, they generally follow the example of Manchester, much will have been done to counteract unfavourable Parliamentary influences, and to give a hopeful issue to the present struggle.

We make no scruple, therefore, in calling upon municipal bodies, liberally disposed, to bestir themselves on this occasion. We might, if we deemed it needful, press home upon them a variety of arguments; but we have too high an appreciation of their intelligence to deem this requisite. They surely must have long since perceived the baneful results produced by invidious ecclesiastical distinctions in English society. None can know better than they, that the maintenance of these distinctions is impolitic—a perpetual source of heart-burning—and an enfeebling of those moral and intellectual capabilities in the development of which the well-being of the State is so intimately concerned. Let them play their part with becoming dignity! Let them put in their plea for national unity! Let them protest against educational intolerance and exclusiveness! They may rely upon it, that a faithful discharge of their duty in this regard will not only be followed by its usual recompense, but will exert an immediate and powerful effect, towards the settlement of this question, upon the forthcoming deliberations of Parliament.

### ECCLIASTICAL LEGISLATION.

ANOTHER pause in legislative proceedings affords an opportunity for noting the position of the various ecclesiastical measures before the House of Commons. There is, first, the Oxford University Bill, which has not yet struggled through committee, and is to be

materially shortened to facilitate its progress. Sixteen clauses, containing matters of detail, are to be omitted; and Lord John Russell has announced, that power will be given to the commissioners to enact certain statutes. When all the clauses are disposed of, Mr. Heywood's motion for abrogating theological tests will have to be discussed. There is thus poor prospect of the measure making a safe passage through the Upper House. The Colonial Clergy Disabilities Bill still stands amongst the orders of the day; but, from the opposition evoked during the last debate, and the formidable list of amendments to be discussed, we may hope that Ministers will include this insidious measure in their annual "massacre." The Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill has only reached its first reading, and will perhaps share a similar fate.

Some of the Miscellaneous Estimates are likely to give rise to both discussion and division. The votes on Education will afford an opportunity for exposing the unsound constitution of the Committee of Council on Education, the injustice of bestowing the greater part of the grant upon a single sect, and the injurious influence of State interference with the instruction of the people. Mr. Spooner is to exhibit his zeal for Protestantism by moving the omission of the proposed vote of £550 "for special service of Roman Catholic priests in prisons;" and, if successful, Mr. Scholefield will follow it up by proposing, in a spirit of even-handed justice, the omission of all grants to all chaplains of gaols. The Irish *Regium Donum*, not yet transferred to the Consolidated Fund, will probably run the gauntlet of Mr. Bright's trenchant opposition.

There are also sundry bills in the hands of private members to be yet disposed of. Foremost amongst them are those for the settlement of the Church-rate question. Mr. Paoke's ridiculous measure, facetiously styled "The Church-rates Extension Bill," stands for second reading on Wednesday, June 14. We can scarcely believe that it will be persevered in, but should the result be otherwise, Mr. Scholefield is prepared to move that it be read a second time that day six months. Sir William Clay's Church-rate Abolition Bill is third on the orders of the day for Wednesday, June 21. Something like 600 petitions, with 60,000 signatures, have already been presented in favour of the abolition of the impost, which number, we hope, will be largely augmented. The list of places which have petitioned, given in another column, shows how strong and wide-spread is the popular aversion to the tax. Notwithstanding the active opposition threatened by Government, we are not without hope that the second reading of the bill may be carried. Much will depend upon the votes of the Irish Liberal members, who, it may be remarked, have been well supported in reference to their special ecclesiastical grievances by their English friends. Mr. Collier's Ecclesiastical Courts Bill will, we fear, make no further progress. There is a curious notice on the order-book, in the name of Mr. Serjeant Shee, for a bill "to alter and amend the laws relating to the Temporalities of the Church in Ireland, and to increase the means of religious instruction and church accommodation for Her Majesty's Irish subjects"—in other words, to give a slice of the revenue of the Irish Establishment to the Roman Catholics! Mr. Shee will scarcely expect his proposal to be seriously debated under present circumstances, and at the far end of the session. Mr. Headlam's Mortmain Bill has yet to go into committee, and the fate of the Marquis of Blandford's measure, "to make better provision for the formation and endowment of separate and distinct parishes," is already sealed. We suppose the bills for registering places of worship, and amending the Marriages Act, are still to remain amongst the unfulfilled promises of the Home Secretary. Lastly, Mr. Pellatt is to move (if he has the opportunity), on the 27th inst.,



**REMOVAL.**—The Offices and Book Depot of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE PATRONAGE and CONTROL, are removed to No. 2, SELJEANT'S INN, No 50, FLEET-STREET. May 31st. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

**LECTURES** by Rev. F. D. MAURICE, Chaplain of Lincoln's Inn.—A Course of SIX LECTURES will be delivered in WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street, St. James's, by the Rev. F. D. MAURICE, on LEARNING and WORKING. The Lectures will commence on THURSDAY, JUNE 8, at 3 o'clock, and will be delivered at the same hour on the succeeding Thursdays till they are completed.

TICKETS. £1 1s. for the course; or 5s. for each Lecture, may be obtained at Messrs. Hookham's Library, 16, Old Bond-street; at Messrs. Mudie's Library, 510, New Oxford-street; at Messrs. J. W. Parker and Son's, Publishers, 445, West Strand; at Mr. Nutt's, Foreign Bookseller, 270, Strand; at Mr. G. Bell's Publisher, 186, Fleet-street, and at Mr. Lumley's, Bookseller, Southampton-street, High Holborn.

The Syllabus of Lectures may be had gratis, on application.

**DIORAMAS**, with Instructive Lectures on subjects of Biblical interest. After the 10th of June, for this season, the DIORAMA OF EGYPT will be discontinued, and the Three o'clock exhibition will stand as follows:—

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THE GENERAL MEETING and MIDSUMMER ELECTION of this Charity will be held on MONDAY, the 19th of JUNE, at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, to receive the Report of the domestic and financial state of the Charity; to elect the several officers; to propose certain variations in the rules, and to elect Fifteen Children.

THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR

Will take the Chair at Twelve o'clock, punctually, when business will be transacted and the poll commenced; to close at Three o'clock precisely. Suitable accommodation will be provided for ladies.

The Elections occur regularly on the Third Monday in January and June. Persons becoming Subscribers on the day of election may vote immediately. Double Proxies can be had at the office, or at the time and place of election. Ladies willing to solicit contributions for the charity, may be supplied with collecting books from the office. Every five guineas so collected entitles to One Life Vote, provided the money is entered in one name only.

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The Board ask special attention to the fact, that a fund has been opened, under great encouragement, for the purpose of erecting a suitable Asylum for the Orphan family. Nothing is of more importance at the present time. The children are now accommodated in two houses, at a distance from each other, and the lease of the principal house expired at Lady-day, 1851; and both the expense and the difficulty of management are increased by the want of one well-arranged dwelling, adapted to the necessities and comfort of the household. A Special Address is prepared on this subject, and they earnestly request that their friends would put it into circulation. Copies may be had at the office, or will be cheerfully sent as directed by any subscriber.

It may gratify the subscribers to be informed, that a small estate, of a most eligible character, has been purchased in reference to the proposed permanent Asylum. It has, however, consumed what means they possessed, and they cannot prudently make another advance, until they are encouraged by the liberal contributions of their friends.

DAVID W. WIRE, } Hon. Secs.  
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Office, 32, Poultry, where Forms of Application for Candidates may be had gratuitously, and every information, on any day, from Ten till Four. Subscriptions most thankfully received. Post-office orders should be made payable to Mr. JOHN CUZNER, Sub-Secretary, and addressed to him at the office of the charity.

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Mr. Daniel Cooper, Surrey Cottage, Hampstead, and 11, Poultry.

The present is a period in which there is a growing sympathy on behalf of destitute and fallen young females, and this Society, although only established in January, 1853, claims some share in producing such sympathy. The Committee feel greatly encouraged by the success of their efforts to rescue the fallen and provide for the destitute, but it is with some regret that they acknowledge having received so little of that encouragement from Protestant Dissenters. Indeed, it is a fact which is palpable that, by the respective ministers of our Congregational and other churches, there is evinced little sympathy for fallen females, and that almost all the efforts hitherto exerted have been mainly upheld by those connected with the Establishment. The Committee have therefore determined to bring the Society's plans before the notice of their Dissenting friends, and they ask for a liberal response.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, occasional papers may be had at the office. Contributions should be sent to any of the officers afore-mentioned—Collecting cards may be had of the Secretary.

**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.**—The distinctive features of this Association are—That all Education should be religious, but, at the same time, so free from Sectarian influence as to secure the sympathy and co-operation of all denominations of Evangelical Christians; and that the State, being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to Voluntary effort.

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The College, Homerton, May 1854. THE EDUCATOR, No. 1, New Series, containing, in addition to the usual matter, the Report of the Congregational Board of Education for the past year, price 3d. To be had of Ward & Co., London, and of all Booksellers.

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# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 449.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### AN EXAMPLE TO MUNICIPALITIES.

EVER since the reform of our municipal bodies, and, probably, as the result of reaction from the tone and tendency of the old, close, and corrupt corporations, it has been the fashion to deprecate, on the part of our town councils, every kind of political manifestation, as foreign to their constitution and their object. The doctrine, true to a certain extent, has, in many places, been pushed to absurd extremes. Municipal bodies have been represented as fit only to superintend such matters as watching, paving, lighting, and draining the respective boroughs they were elected to serve, and as disqualified from pronouncing an opinion upon matters of general policy, interesting, for the time being, the nation at large. If this were true—if the functions of these our local parliaments were really limited to the material improvement of the localities they represent—then it becomes difficult to account for the universally received maxim, that municipal independence constitutes the main bulwark of our national liberties. The primary duties of the bodies to which we refer must, of course, be local, but the efficient discharge of these duties has never yet been found incompatible with the enunciation of decided opinions upon questions of importance affecting the well-being of the entire British public.

No corporate body in these realms, to which powers of local government have been entrusted, can remain indifferent as to the basis upon which our national Universities shall in future repose. Together, they constitute, or, at least, ought to do, the fountain of intellectual life to the whole people. No important locality can fail of being seriously affected by the principles in conformity with which education is dispensed at these national institutions. The civilisation and refinement of our larger towns, the formation and correction of their intellectual tastes, the tone of their higher social circles, and, as a consequence of it, the aspirations and spirit of the broader and lower ones, always have been, and necessarily will be, very much affected by the ideas imbibed in early life by those who receive a University education. Whether, therefore, the advantages of such education shall continue to be confined, as heretofore, within the narrow limits of a sect, comprising less than a third of the whole population—whether they shall be inseparably associated with ecclesiastical narrowness and intolerance—or whether they shall become accessible to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, without regard to their religious belief—appears to our mind a question upon which our municipal councils may legitimately pronounce their opinion, and towards the decision of which they may very fitly bring their influence to bear upon the Supreme Council of the nation.

It is with high gratification, therefore, that we have observed the mooted and decision of this point in the Manchester Town Council during the last week. In a clear, logical, and unanswerable speech, Mr. Councillor Fildes moved:—"That petitions be presented to both Houses of Parliament, under the corporation seal, praying that all ecclesiastical tests for matriculation and degrees at the

University of Oxford, and for degrees at the University of Cambridge, may be abolished." The motion was most ably supported by Mr. Alderman Shuttleworth, Mr. Alderman Bancroft, and Councillors M'Dougall and Clarke, and was carried almost unanimously. We believe this is not the only instance of the kind to which we may refer. If our recollection be not at fault, the municipalities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Worcester, have decided to a like effect: although, of course, the moral influence of Manchester on many accounts renders its testimony to liberal principles peculiarly valuable. To the gentlemen, therefore, who originated and so efficiently carried through this movement, we hold the public to be largely indebted; and we trust that the timely and salutary stimulus thus imparted to a just and truly national cause, will be such as to afford them an ample recompense for any pains they may have been at in the accomplishment of their purpose.

The recent modification of the Oxford University Bill, whereby a considerable number of its remaining clauses are to be dropped, and freer scope be given to the University Commissioners, renders it extremely probable that the question of the abolition of religious tests will be brought before the House of Commons within a few days. The general state of feeling in that House may be described as rather favourable than otherwise to the carrying of Mr. Heywood's clauses. But it is not to be concealed, that her Majesty's Government, pledged, as we understand, to the University authorities at Oxford to resist such a motion, and more anxious to adapt their bill to the known feelings of the House of Lords than to render it just in its provisions, may prevail upon many members, otherwise liberally inclined, to vote against one, if not both, of the propositions to be submitted by the hon. member for Lancashire. So far as we can ascertain, a majority of the House will decide in favour of abolishing tests at Oxford on matriculation, but not on taking degrees—a most unsatisfactory decision, which it behoves the public out of doors, if possible, to prevent. But the question is one which, in the nature of things, cannot hope to be aided by a popular agitation—whilst, on the other hand, its solution largely depends upon an unequivocal demonstration of public opinion. At this juncture, as it seems to us, the interposition of municipal bodies is loudly called for. Upon this point, they may be fairly taken as the truthful exponents of popular sentiment; and if, within the next week, they generally follow the example of Manchester, much will have been done to counteract unfavourable Parliamentary influences, and to give a hopeful issue to the present struggle.

We make no scruple, therefore, in calling upon municipal bodies, liberally disposed, to bestir themselves on this occasion. We might, if we deemed it needful, press home upon them a variety of arguments; but we have too high an appreciation of their intelligence to deem this requisite. They surely must have long since perceived the baneful results produced by invidious ecclesiastical distinctions in English society. None can know better than they, that the maintenance of these distinctions is impolitic—a perpetual source of heart-burning—and an enfeebling of those moral and intellectual capabilities in the development of which the well-being of the State is so intimately concerned. Let them play their part with becoming dignity! Let them put in their plea for national unity! Let them protest against educational intolerance and exclusiveness! They may rely upon it, that a faithful discharge of their duty in this regard will not only be followed by its usual recompense, but will exert an immediate and powerful effect, towards the settlement of this question, upon the forthcoming deliberations of Parliament.

### ECCLIASTICAL LEGISLATION.

ANOTHER pause in legislative proceedings affords an opportunity for noting the position of the various ecclesiastical measures before the House of Commons. There is, first, the Oxford University Bill, which has not yet struggled through committee, and is to be

materially shortened to facilitate its progress. Sixteen clauses, containing matters of detail, are to be omitted; and Lord John Russell has announced, that power will be given to the commissioners to enact certain statutes. When all the clauses are disposed of, Mr. Heywood's motion for abrogating theological tests will have to be discussed. There is thus poor prospect of the measure making a safe passage through the Upper House. The Colonial Clergy Disabilities Bill still stands amongst the orders of the day; but, from the opposition evoked during the last debate, and the formidable list of amendments to be discussed, we may hope that Ministers will include this insidious measure in their annual "massacre." The Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill has only reached its first reading, and will perhaps share a similar fate.

Some of the Miscellaneous Estimates are likely to give rise to both discussion and division. The votes on Education will afford an opportunity for exposing the unsound constitution of the Committee of Council on Education, the injustice of bestowing the greater part of the grant upon a single sect, and the injurious influence of State interference with the instruction of the people. Mr. Spooner is to exhibit his zeal for Protestantism by moving the omission of the proposed vote of £550 "for special service of Roman Catholic priests in prisons;" and, if successful, Mr. Scholefield will follow it up by proposing, in a spirit of even-handed justice, the omission of all grants to all chaplains of gaols. The Irish *Regium Donum*, not yet transferred to the Consolidated Fund, will probably run the gauntlet of Mr. Bright's trenchant opposition.

There are also sundry bills in the hands of private members to be yet disposed of. Foremost amongst them are those for the settlement of the Church-rate question. Mr. Packe's ridiculous measure, facetiously styled "The Church-rates Extension Bill," stands for second reading on Wednesday, June 14. We can scarcely believe that it will be persevered in, but should the result be otherwise, Mr. Scholefield is prepared to move that it be read a second time that day six months. Sir William Clay's Church-rate Abolition Bill is third on the orders of the day for Wednesday, June 21. Something like 500 petitions, with 60,000 signatures, have already been presented in favour of the abolition of the impost, which number, we hope, will be largely augmented. The list of places which have petitioned, given in another column, shows how strong and wide-spread is the popular aversion to the tax. Notwithstanding the active opposition threatened by Government, we are not without hope that the second reading of the bill may be carried. Much will depend upon the votes of the Irish Liberal members, who, it may be remarked, have been well supported in reference to their special ecclesiastical grievances by their English friends. Mr. Collier's Ecclesiastical Courts Bill will, we fear, make no further progress. There is a curious notice on the order-book, in the name of Mr. Serjeant Shee, for a bill "to alter and amend the laws relating to the Temporalities of the Church in Ireland, and to increase the means of religious instruction and church accommodation for Her Majesty's Irish subjects"—in other words, to give a slice of the revenue of the Irish Establishment to the Roman Catholics! Mr. Shee will scarcely expect his proposal to be seriously debated under present circumstances, and at the far end of the session. Mr. Headlam's Mortmain Bill has yet to go into committee, and the fate of the Marquis of Blandford's measure, "to make better provision for the formation and endowment of separate and distinct parishes," is already sealed. We suppose the bills for registering places of worship, and amending the Marriages Act, are still to remain amongst the unfulfilled promises of the Home Secretary. Lastly, Mr. Pellatt is to move (if he has the opportunity), on the 27th inst.,



"That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that she will be graciously pleased to reconsider the Order in Council recently and now in force, for peremptorily closing each burial-ground, as have been well conducted, and have ground in which no burials have yet taken place; also, to cause inquiry to be made whether Christian ministers of all denominations may be allowed to hold a religious service at the grave, whenever requested by members of the family or by attendant friends of the deceased, at all public burial-grounds, whether such grounds be consecrated or not, in the same way as is now practised in Ireland."

#### THE MILTON CLUB.

A LETTER from the Secretary of the Milton Club, inserted elsewhere, will furnish a satisfactory reply to many a mental inquiry as to the cause of delay in opening this much-needed institution. The committee have, for some time past, been quietly negotiating for the purchase of some contiguous property, necessary to improve the approaches to the premises. These arrangements have at length been completed, and will, we believe, prove worthy of the time and trouble expended on them. We trust, for the sake of the Club itself, there will be no further cause for delay. If the whole of the scheme cannot be at once realised, it is highly desirable that a part should be carried into effect. The arrangements for the Club department might be carried into effect, leaving those for the public hall to be perfected hereafter. We have little doubt that the committee, whose judgment and energy have thus far moulded the project, will see the necessity of this step, and enable us, in a short time, to congratulate our readers on the opening of an institution adapted to form a central bond of union to the scattered sections of British Nonconformity.

#### THE ANTI-CHURCH-RATE MOVEMENT.

##### PETITIONS FOR ABOLITION.

According to the thirty-ninth report of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Petitions, the total number of petitions against Church-rates to 57,648 signatures. The following are the names of May 26, was 488, with the places from which petitions have been received according to the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Commons:—Fowey, Brackley, Great Gidding, Northgate End Chapel, Halifax, Ealing, Maulden, Newton, Acerington (two petitions), Halifax, Harden, Nottingham, Market Harborough, Cradley, Wavertree, Ashton, Macclesfield, Newport (Isle of Wight), Clapham, Gloucester, Castle Camps, Downton, Bristol, Andover, Hookliffe, Aberdare (two petitions), Wickhambrook, Leighton Buzzard, Scarborough, Darlington, Houghton-cum-Wilton, Hemstock, Wingfield, Camberwell Green, Haworth, Risworth, Carmarthen, Peterborough, Rotherham, Heywood, Exeter, Tonbridge, Pottersbury, Evesham, Abergwilly, Newport (Isle of Wight) Steep Lane Sowerby Halifax, Hindley, Doncaster (two petitions), Lancaster (two petitions), Brecon Independent College, Bury, Newton, Frome Selwood, Tavistock, Burnley, Bridport, Amersham, South Shields, Roydon, Stony Stratford, Long Crendon, Bristol (sixteen petitions), Radnor and Hereford, Littledean and Woodside, Canterbury, Chesterfield, Stow-on-the-Wold, Ramsey, Bourton, Toddington, Langham, Sowerby Bridge, Staniland, Warley, Halifax, Welford, Kenilworth, Hornsham, Birkenhead, Lockwood, Kingston-upon-Hull, Bilston, Chard, Burton-upon-Trent, Stockton-upon-Tees (two petitions), Bury, Bridgnorth, Nempnoth, Langham, Llanidlo Talylent, Bishop, Fulham, Leicester, Wisbeach, Langford, Newport, Norwich, Oakham, Old and Scadwell, New Baxford, Aberdare, Swansea (four petitions), Mynyddbach, Northampton, Hallen, Felton, Wymeswold, Margate, Woolford, Lumb, Melbourn, Woolwich, Dunkerton and Carlingout, Pensford, Folkestone, Wells, Manchester (three petitions), Beaminster, Little Shelford, Elm, Kensall Green and Kensall Town, New Sarum, Idle (two petitions), Little Houghton, Exeter (two petitions), Godmanchester (two petitions), Abingdon, Reigate, Coleford, Clare, Stockport, Rawden, Whitchurch, Cardiff (four petitions), Lydney, Brighton, Horsham, Kettering (two petitions), Tong, Eccleshill, Farsley, Bringley, Wyke, Hornton, Bingley, Wilsden, Wibsey, Bath, Wakefield, Bradford (thirteen petitions), Ipswich (two petitions), Coventry, Shipley, Huntingdon, Gainsborough (three petitions), Padiham, Newcastle-under-Lyme (three petitions), Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Selby, Lutterworth, Evanjobb, Preston (two petitions), Birmingham (two petitions), Westbury, Carmarthen (two petitions), Weytown, Melton Mowbray, Somersham, Gore Chapel, Fakenham, Shrewsbury, Sutton-in-the-Elms, Stroud, Wissett, Cefn Cribar and Mynydd-Kenfig, Penygraig, Llandeilo, Nottingham (four petitions), New Windsor, Cleckheaton, Metropolis (three petitions), Norwich (two petitions), Manchester (six petitions), Leeds (two petitions), Wisbech (three petitions), Wymondham (three petitions), Rochdale (three petitions), Kelvedon, Chichester, Mangotsfield, Wolverhampton, Broughton, West Bromwich, Stansfield, Great Shelford, Pucklechurch, Mevagisey, Gorran, Northiam, Wortley, Hatch Beauchamp, Lyndhurst, Saxthorpe, Chatteris, Little Dunham, Necton, East and West Bradenham, Watton, Hingham, Chepstow, Sandhurst, Horningtoft, Whimsett, Litcham, Newport,

Langford, Theddingworth, Clipston, Woking, Newark, Bramfield, Bitton, Hexham, Modbury, Warrington, Wotton-under-Edge, Cowlinge (three petitions), Thersfield, Monmouth, Kibworth, Grantham, Rayleigh, Newport Pagnell, Bacup (two petitions), East Dereham, Faringdon, Hartley Wintney, Clapham (two petitions), Burford, Tunbridge Wells (two petitions), Wallingford, Frithelstock, Hadleigh, Castle and Sible Hedingham, Aylaham, Wolston and vicinity, Shillington, Kentisbeare, Barley, Lincoln, Wantage, Bottisham, Hitchin, Horseton Sunnig, Buntingford, Broadwindsor, Stambourne, Neath (four petitions), Kingston, Hethersett, Brymbo, St. Neot's, Glyndyfrdwy, Leicester, Middlewich, Richard C. Rawlins and others, Brill, Gresford, Blackburn, Ramsgate, Castle Donington, Runcorn, Halesworth, Southminster, Earl's Colne, James Waller and others, St. Ives, Whitechurch, Great Grimsby, Barnaley, James Roberts and others, Marshfield, Colchester, Dedham, Nantwich, Southampton, Liverpool, Blandford Forum, Clawsplwyf, Boston, Woodhurst, Isle Abbots, Dylais Lower, Duxford, Ipswich (four petitions), Foleshill, Hereford, Llanllechid, Dorking, Barking, Acerington, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Clayton, Measam, Bye, White Colne, Buckingham, Sudbury and Ballingdon, Beaford, Stretham, Kingswood, Over Darwen, Manningtree, Stalham, Faversham, Cuckfield, Chorley (two petitions), Chard, Darfield, Port-hallow, Broughton, Scarbro', Wrexham, Hinckley, Sidmouth, Plymouth, Loughborough, Whissendine, Sealford, Lymington, Wrexham (ten petitions), Sutton Courtney, Kidwelly, Saffron Walden, Bartway and Barley, Wilburton, Penycal, Llynwel, Henry Solly and others, St. Mary Church, Dylais, Higher, Staplehurst, Sketty Swansen, Preston, Haslingden, Garway, Calveston, St. Alban's, Oxford, Poole, Layer Bratton, Row-hedge, Tiptree, Wivenhoe, Bures, Castleacre, Swansea, Neath-on-Leak, Marple Bridge, Halifax, Bristol, Wheaton Aston, Geddington, Honiton, Portsmouth, Honiton (two petitions), Nottingham, Halifax, Brynmair and Nant-yglo, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Lydbrook, Southampton, Manchester, Kettering, Chichester, Exeter, Llandovery, Pentretgywyn, Carmarthen, Cardiff (two petitions), West Bromwich, Poole, Braintree and Boeking, Cilmaenllwyd, Halesworth, North Shields (four petitions), Preston, Pudsey, Rotherham, Inskip and Sowerby, Tynemouth, North Shields, Dewsbury (six petitions), Kidderminster, Bishops Stortford, Wrexham (five petitions), Newcastle-on-Tyne (two petitions), Llanfair Caereinion, Lincoln, Manchester, Christchurch, Banbury (two petitions) Carlisle, Holt, Loddington, Thame, Redenhall-with-Harleston, and Bridge-water.

##### MEETING IN LAMBETH.

On Thursday evening a public meeting of the rate-payers and inhabitants of Lambeth was held at the new Vestry-hall, Kennington-green, for the purpose of taking into consideration the provisions of the bill introduced by Sir William Clay, and lately read a first time in the House of Commons, with a view of petitioning Parliament thereupon. The meeting was very fully attended. Mr. J. W. Stratton, churchwarden, in the chair. The Rev. Mr. BAAN proposed, and Mr. EDWARDS seconded, a resolution declaring Church-rates to be a most prolific source of irritation and discord, opposed to civil and religious liberty, and at variance with the genius of Christianity. Mr. BELL and Mr. DORY supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. FREDERICK DOUGLASS, in moving the second resolution, commented upon the hardship to which persons differing from the Church of England were subjected in being compelled to uphold a system which many of them believed to be erroneous. Some of the defenders of the system urged that its abolition would be dangerous to the Church, as it was no longer the majority. If this were true, Churchmen ought rather to have to pay to the progress of Dissent than Dissenters to the progress of Church principles. (Hear, hear.) There were parts of the Church of England system from which he dissented, and while he and others of his belief were publicly cursed thirteen times a year for not believing in its creed, they were regularly called upon to uphold the sanctuary in which that curse was uttered. (Hear, hear.) The resolution he had to propose was:—

That this meeting learns with surprise that a Church-rate made in 1836 is now being collected in the parish, and resolves that a balance-sheet of the same be forthwith prepared by the vestry clerk, including the money paid from the Pedlar's Acre estate, and presented at a special vestry meeting to be held this day fortnight, with a view of closing the rate at once.

Mr. HARDING seconded the resolution, which was put and carried.

The meeting then adjourned, with the view to the preparation of a petition and the presentation of the accounts adverted to in the resolution.

##### MEETING AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

A public meeting on the Church-rate question was held in the Victoria Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Wednesday last. The meeting was not numerous—a circumstance ascribed to the absence of excitement on a question which has long been practically settled in Newcastle and Gateshead. T. E. HEADLAM, Esq., M.D., Alderman of Newcastle, was called to the chair, and said that though a Churchman he was opposed to Church-rates. The question which had brought them together affected materially the fundamental principle of civil and religious liberty, which was grossly infringed by the impost known as Church-rate.

Mr. T. GRAY, after giving a sketch of Church-rate history, contrasted Mr. Packe's insidious bill with Sir William Clay's short and decisive measure, and urged the Dissenters not to be too sure of the desired result, but to exert themselves with energy for the total abolition of the rate, or Mr. Packe's bill, absurd as it was, might, if not wholly, be partially passed into a law. He moved:—

That this meeting, assembled to consider the provisions of two bills now before the House of Commons, introduced by Mr. Packe and Sir William Clay, for the settlement of the Church-Rate

question—the one, on pretence of relieving the Dissenters, continuing the obnoxious impost, and riveting it more closely upon them—the other abolishing it altogether—resolves to petition Parliament to reject the bill of Mr. Packe, and to pass Sir William Clay's.

Mr. J. L. ANGAS seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed.

Mr. JOHN BENSON moved the second resolution, comprising the petition, as follows:—

That the following petition be adopted by this meeting; and that Mr. Headlam, M.P., be requested to present it to the House of Commons, and Mr. Blakett, M.P., and Mr. Hutt, M.P., to support the prayer:—

*To the Honorable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.*

The Petition of the friends of Civil and Religious Liberty in Newcastle and Gateshead, assembled in public meeting in Newcastle-upon-Tyne,

HUMBLY SHeweth,—That compulsory payments for the maintenance of religious worship are condemned and resisted by Nonconformists as alien to the spirit and genius of Christianity, and also by many members of the Established Church, who regard them, in the present state of society in this country, as a gross and injurious social wrong.

That those hostile to such imposts on principle, the argument of numbers is of little importance; but when that section of the community, for the maintenance of whose worship they are levied, is equalled, if not outnumbered, by those who assemble apart from the State Church, the exaction assumes, as a social injustice, a most monstrous and aggravated character.

That the census of 1881 has shown that the Nonconforming churches of England have voluntarily provided as large an amount of accommodation for public worship as is enjoyed by the Established Church; that in Newcastle and Gateshead, while the Nonconformists have provided 24,064 sittings, the Establishment possesses but 13,823; and that, on the Census Sunday, the attendances on divine worship, in those boroughs, were 28,380 in the churches and chapels of the Nonconformists, and but 16,400 in the churches of the Establishment.

That in Newcastle and Gateshead the Church-rate question is already settled; and every place of religious worship in the two towns is now, and has for some time been, maintained by the voluntary contributions of the worshippers.

That two bills are now before your honorable House, one of which would enforce upon the whole country the repairs and sustentation of the national churches, the exclusive enjoyment of which is practically conceded to a single section of the community, and, in the event of refusal, would empower a majority of the Church to tax Nonconformists and Churchmen alike, and re-impose on your petitioners, a burden which they have long since constitutionally thrown off, and which the spirit of the age is rendering everywhere obsolete.

That the same bill proposes to cast the maintenance of public worship in the Established Church upon all persons who do not purge themselves from their liability by proof on oath, before two justices of the peace, that they are members of Nonconforming communities assembling in registered places of worship.

That your petitioners, while they do not question the motives of the author of such a bill, are surprised by the ignorance which it betrays of his countrymen, and feel called upon to assure your honorable House that the Nonconformists of England would never purchase the humiliating assumption, nor submit to the tyrannical exaction, which it contemplates.

That your petitioners pray your honorable House to reject this bill, and either to refrain from legislation on a question which is already disposed of in these towns, and is thus settling itself everywhere, or to pass into a law the bill now under your consideration for the unconditional abolition of Church-rates, seeing that no satisfactory substitute can be provided by Parliament—resources to the Consolidated Fund being opposed by Nonconformists, and to Church property by Churchmen—and, moreover, that voluntary effort has been found simply sufficient for the proposed objects, whenever, as in Newcastle and Gateshead, compulsory payments have been rejected and abandoned.

It was, once his lot to be engaged in a Church-rate contest in the parish wherein the present meeting was assembled, and he hoped never to be embroiled in another. So angry, contentious, unholly a spirit was engendered on both sides—there was so much of force and clamour, of bitterness and beer—that he could not but feel humiliated, as a Christian man, at being mixed up with such a quarrel, even on the right side; and most heartily did he join in the prayer of the petition that the cause of contention might be removed.

Some one inquired if the bill of Sir William Clay would abolish, not only Church-rates but Easter dues, which (he said) were still collected in Gateshead? The question was answered in the negative.

The Rev. GEORGE BELL seconded the motion. He had never, he said, paid either a Church-rate or an Easter-due in his life; and if every Dissenter had made the same stand, the question would have been settled long ago.

The Rev. JAMES EVERETT, in moving the following resolution, said he was a decided advocate of the Voluntary principle:—

That this meeting desires to express its satisfaction that Newcastle and Gateshead are represented in Parliament by gentlemen whose principles led them to support the introduction of the bill of Sir William Clay, and requests the Chairman to convey to them this grateful acknowledgment of their public services. (Cheers.)

Mr. WILLIAM ANDERSON seconded the resolution, and it was passed by acclamation.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.—From the Gateshead Observer.

##### CHURCH-RATE CONTESTS.

At Kensington, the halfpenny rate was carried on going to the poll—the numbers being, for the halfpenny rate, 326; for the three-halfpenny rate, 818: majority, 69.

At Margate (writes a correspondent), the Church-rate question will be soon settled. At a Vestry meeting, held on Thursday last, for the purpose of making a Church-rate, it was strongly objected to—about ten to one, by Churchmen and Dissenters—as anti-Christian, unjust, and oppressive. The mover of the rate demanded a poll, and all the influences that could be commanded was brought into active operation; urgent voters were brought from distant parts of the parish; and many compelled to vote for the rate contrary to their better feelings. The anti-rate supporters did not organise until towards the close of the poll, or the matter would have been finally settled. The close of the poll showed a majority of persons against the rate, but not of votes.

The parishioners of St. John's, Bridgewater, were informed, by a very small notice affixed to an obscure corner of the church door, that a vestry-meeting was to be held on Friday, 2nd June, for the purpose of auditing and passing the churchwardens' accounts, and making a rate. The Dissenters of the parish, however, made the matter rather more public by handbills, and the result was that a proposed rate of 1d. was negatived.



by a very large majority. A poll was talked about, but the opposition was so thorough, and the majority so large, the Church people charitably thought it *imexpedient*. This is the third conquest of the kind which has taken place in the borough, each succeeding one more marked and decided than its predecessor.

The Vestry of St. Mary's, Southampton, have adopted petitions to Parliament in favour of Sir W. Clay's Church-rate Abolition Bill, and of the admission of all classes to the Universities. The Rector-Archdeacon both refused to put the motions and protested against such matters being introduced; but his remonstrances were disregarded, another chairman was appointed, and both motions were carried by a majority of 12 to 4.

A meeting was held in Monkwearmouth vestry, on Tuesday night, at which, if we correctly understand our (*Gateshead Observer*) correspondent, it was expected that the churchwardens were to call for a Church-rate. But no churchwardens were present. A resolution was passed complaining of their discourtesy and condemnatory of Church-rates. The accounts have not been passed, and one of the wardens is £92 out of pocket, with no rate to fall back upon. A petition in favour of Sir William Clay's bill was numerously signed—one of the petitioners being a churchwarden.

#### ABOLITION OF UNIVERSITY TESTS.

One rather striking indication of the advance of opinion on this question, is found in the almost unanimous adoption of a petition for the opening of the Universities to all persons, without distinction of creed, by the Manchester Town Council. The meeting was held on Wednesday last, when Councillor Fildes moved:—

That petitions be presented to both Houses of Parliament, under the corporation seal, praying that all ecclesiastical tests for matriculation and degrees at the University of Oxford, and for degrees at the University of Cambridge, may be abolished.

In the notice he had added to the above the following words:—"Such tests being detrimental to the true interests of these institutions, and in direct violation of their original constitution." These, however, for the sake of avoiding unnecessary difference of opinion, he now withdrew. His motion was founded on the fact, that there were certain religious tests required at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, which tended to exclude a large portion of Her Majesty's subjects from the advantages of those institutions. At Oxford, before being placed on the college books, and at Cambridge before he can take a degree or enjoy any of the advantages of that university, a person must subscribe the Thirty-nine Articles. In the universities of Scotland and Ireland no tests whatever were required. There were no tests at Oxford and Cambridge before the time of James I.; before that time no one was prevented attending the universities on account of diversity of religious opinion; and the tests were imposed in an informal and unprecedented manner, not by the authority of Parliament, but only in conformity with the King's letter, and contrary to the wishes of many of the then members of the Senate. The institutions were called universities, and their name showed that they were designed for the entire of the population; and yet tests were imposed by which two-thirds of Her Majesty's subjects were excluded. He thought he was entitled to put this question on the broad principle of justice. If it was a fact that not more than one-third of the nation attended the Church of England, then it followed that one-third excluded the other two-thirds from the universities. The injustice of which they had to complain was the monopoly of the English universities by one-third of the nation. He thought that they who were sent to this chamber, having this fact before them, owed to society, to posterity, and to every principle of right and every sentiment of public honour, to lay this state of things before the high courts of Parliament. He rejoiced at the altered state of the times and the laws as respected other tests. Looking around him there, he saw members of the corporation who, twenty-seven years ago, could not have belonged to any corporation whatever. The test and corporation acts would have excluded some of the most valued members of that chamber. Had the peace of this city been unsafe in the hands of these men? Sir Elkanah Armitage, a Dissenter, had filled the chair during the most dangerous times they had had of late. He put this motion before the council on all these grounds,—that ecclesiastical tests were no terror to the bad, and only acted to exclude the sincere and conscientious; that they were contrary to the ancient practice of the universities, being only imposed at the instigation of a silly and pedantic monarch; that they were unjust, excluding a majority of the people, and detrimental to the true interests of those institutions, as they limited the number of those who would attend the universities.

Alderman Heywood seconded the motion, commended the manner in which it had been moved, and added, that he had heard it said that it trenchanted too much upon the religious opinions of members of this council, but its mover had shown no such intention.

Councillor JOSEPH LAMB objected to the introduction of questions into that council calculated to bring them into collision. If any man wanted to go to the universities, he did not see any hardship in a test being required. If Churchmen were one-third of the whole population, surely those two institutions were not too large for them. Dissenters had institutions of their own, which Church people, he was sure, had no intention to interfere with. With regard to the Thirty-nine Articles, he did not see that any good man would object to sign them. He confessed that he knew very little about these religious tests before to-day; but having heard Councillor Fildes's speech, he would oppose the motion, even if he stood alone.

Alderman SHUTTLEWORTH replied to Mr. Lamb, expressing a doubt whether he had ever read the Thirty-

nine Articles, which involved the results of the most subtle investigation, and no youth could possibly have the qualifications for understanding them. A few years ago a most estimable and distinguished prelate of the Church declared, in the House of Lords, that he had never met with a single clergyman who truly and in his heart believed the whole of the Thirty-nine Articles. And since no one could take them in sincerity and truth, it showed a laxity of public morals which he regretted to see existing in society. The education given at the universities, with all its faults, was the best that human beings could receive in any educational establishments; and he regretted that any difficulties should be placed in the way of persons entering them. Mr. James Heywood was an instance in point; he, to his credit, had refused to take degrees to which he was honourably entitled, because he would not do that which Mr. Lamb said no good man could object to do.

Councillor MIDDLETON agreed with Mr. Lamb as to the impolicy of introducing questions of religion into the council, but, although a Churchman, he would support the motion.

Councillors M'DUGALL and CLARK, and Alderman BANCROFT, supported the motion. Councillor FLETCHER would rather they should not deal with the question, and Councillor MIDDLETON thought that the matter might be safely left to the Government of this country, who were evidently disposed to take a step in the right direction. These foundations were established in times when the principal portion of the community was either of the Protestant or of the Catholic communion, and they were originally established with reference to those two communions. He did not mean to say that he was opposed to this alteration, but he did not wish sweeping alterations to be made.

As we have said above, the resolution was carried almost unanimously, and a petition founded on the resolution afterwards adopted.

#### Religious Intelligence.

##### OPENING OF A "FREE CHURCH" AT AVEBURY.

On Tuesday (says the *Wilts Independent*) the building in Avebury, used for a great number of years past by the religious denomination of Independents, was re-opened, after extensive alterations, as a "Free Church," worshipping after the forms of the Church of England. In consequence of Popish doctrines being preached in the parish church, a number of parishioners determined upon withdrawing from such teaching, and the Independent chapel being at that time thinly attended, they made proposals to unite with them in the celebration of Divine worship. The trust-deeds of the chapel forbid the use of the building by any but "Protestant Dissenters," but they do not prescribe the mode in which Divine worship shall be celebrated, nor forbid the use of the Church forms. The former attendants of the chapel, and the Congregational Union of the county, in whose hands it was invested, consented, under the circumstances, to the introduction of the use of the Prayer-book in a modified form, and the seceders from the Church accordingly procured a lease of the building, and at once set about its restoration. A Nonconforming minister, the Rev. Mr. Trotter, was selected as pastor, and under him a "Free Church" of evangelical Christians has now been formed. The alterations having been completed, and the building, now capable of holding 300 persons, made extremely neat and commodious, the opening services took place, as above stated, on Tuesday last. The attendance was numerous, the following ministers being present:—The Rev. J. E. Gladstone (of the Free Church); Rev. T. Dodd (Countess of Huntingdon); Rev. Mr. Frost, of Bath; Revs. T. H. Smith, T. Mann, and W. Kingsland (Independents); and Rev. T. Middlemitch (Baptist).

The meeting in the afternoon commenced by Mr. J. F. Pinniger, of Kennet, being voted to the chair, who, after a hymn and prayer, made an opening address, giving an account of the circumstances which had led to this Free-Church movement. The Rev. Mr. SARRIS, of Marlborough, then moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting deeply regrets the lamentable state into which the Church of England has fallen, by the substitution of Tractarian error for the fundamental doctrines of the Reformation, and is of opinion, that all who love Gospel truth, especially the laity of the Church of England, ought, while so many of the clergy are propagating error, or not efficiently preaching the truth, to unite in providing for themselves a ministry in which the Gospel of Christ will be preached in all its freedom, fulness, and simplicity.

The Rev. T. Dodd, of Worcester, having seconded the resolution, the Rev. Mr. TROTTER, minister of the place, moved the next resolution, as follows:—

That this meeting rejoices that a movement is contemplated for the reformation of the Church of England from the semi-Popish errors into which she has been led by her professed friends, and pledges itself to co-operate with those devoted men who are seeking to restore it to the glorious doctrines of the Reformation.

The Rev. J. E. GLADSTONE, late of Long-acre Episcopal Chapel, London, and now of the Free Church, Torquay, seconded the resolution. The clergy of the Church of England were, he said, afraid to speak out; in fact there was not a body of slaves in the world more bound hand and foot than they. He intended to speak in plain Saxon-English, because the times required it. He had been born, baptised, and ordained in the Church of England, and in her Protestant purity he loved her from his heart. But when he was asked if he would set the system above Him who is the Head of his church, he replied, God forbid! Probably, at the lowest computation, there was an amount of £5,000,000 a-year in the hands of the Church, or about ten times as much as all the voluntary subscriptions that were raised in the country for sending the Gospel to the heathen. Now that sum, if economically, carefully, and judiciously used, would suffice to send the Gospel into every quarter of England. At the present time, the greater part of this money went

to support vain Popery, or idle, ignorant uselessness. The working clergy were working to starve; the dignified clergy—dignified in nothing but pomp and luxury—were sucking up the honey, while the others were doing the work. Were he (Mr. Gladstone) Archbishop of Canterbury, he would see whether he could not bring the Bishop of Exeter and all the Tractarian clergy to book before a twelvemonth was over. Was it to be borne, that while the bishops professed to mourn over the spiritual destitution of the people, they should not only be receiving such enormous sums as they did, but should make false returns of what they did receive? The Bishop of London had formerly been in the receipt of £12,000 a-year, but he procured an Act by which he was enabled to improve the property out of which his income arose until it now brought him in £60,000 a-year, and yet he made his return still as £12,000! And yet, the evangelical clergy of this country were afraid to speak out. The Church was being betrayed into the hands of the enemy, the evangelical portion of her ministers knew of it, and saw it daily around them, and still they cry out for "peace;" they recommended moderation, and were fearful of giving offence. They were the most guilty of all; "dumb dogs, that could not bark." The fact was, that if the Devil himself were on the earth, and became a bishop, the evangelical clergy would fall down and worship him!

The Rev. W. KINGSLAND, of Devizes, moved the third resolution, expressive of gratitude for the re-establishment of a Gospel ministry in the place, and for the success which had already accompanied it; and trusting that this free church might, by the Divine blessing, be made instrumental in establishing believers, and bringing many to a saving knowledge of the truth. He said:—"I am glad that such things as we have heard to-day were not spoken by a Dissenter. (Laughter.) We have had the principles of ultra-Dissent enunciated; one of the most eloquent sermons ever preached in favour of Dissent is made by the movement consummated this day. The great principle of Dissent is, that every man has a right to his own opinion."

The Rev. Mr. Frost, of Bath, seconded the motion, which was carried, and the meeting was shortly afterwards closed with the Benediction.

In the evening, a sermon was preached to a crowded congregation, by the Rev. T. Dodd. Collections were made at the close of the service, as there had been in the afternoon towards defraying the expenses of the alterations, the sum thus collected amounting to £18 12s.

THE REV. J. KEYNES, of Blandford, having accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation from the Congregational Church at Grove-street, Boston, to become their pastor, proposes to commence his stated labours amongst them on the first Sabbath in July.

CONGREGATIONAL COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The *Patriot*, of Thursday, announces the arrival at Melbourne of the Rev. Messrs. Fletcher, Peore, and Day. They entered Port Phillip Head on the 23rd of March, after a voyage of 104 days from the time when they left Lamash Bay. Dr. Ross, at Sydney, was seriously, if not alarmingly ill. An attack of paralysis had greatly affected his head and neck.

THE BAPTIST CHAPEL, WHITCHURCH, SALOP, was re-opened, after extensive repairs and improvements, on Tuesday, the 23rd of May, when the Rev. J. P. Murrell, of Leicester, preached two sermons, and a tea-meeting was held, attended by about 360 persons. On the following Sunday sermons were preached by the Rev. S. Manning, of Frome, and the Rev. B. H. Hare (Wesleyan) of Whitchurch. The chapel and school-rooms in their improved state seemed to give general satisfaction to the large congregations present at these services, and the proceeds of the collections and tea-meeting amounted to about £100.

THE MISSIONARY-SHIP "WILLIAMS."—A letter from the captain of the missionary-ship *John Williams*, received at the London Mission-house last week, reports a visit to Erromanga, in the New Hebrides. During the stay of the vessel off the island, the very man who levelled the fatal blow at the martyred missionary Williams came on board. He is now a learner of Christianity. The question was put to him why he killed the missionary? His reply was, "White man had been to the island, and had slain his brother and his sister: he feared this white man would do likewise, and so he killed him." The island is now to a great extent reclaimed from heathenism by the labours of native evangelists.

BRAMLEY, NEAR LEEDS.—The Rev. John Walcott, Baptist Minister, having accepted the pastoral charge of the church at Sutton-in-Fraser, many of the friends at Bramley have united in subscribing to present him, before leaving, with a substantial proof of their goodwill. A valedictory meeting accordingly took place on Thursday evening last, in the Baptist school-room, when about 200 persons, connected with various religious denominations, took tea together. After tea, Mr. Alderman Gresham was unanimously requested to preside, and the Rev. James Rawson, in an appropriate address, presented the testimonial, which consisted of a beautiful purse, containing thirty guineas, and bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to the Rev. John Walcott, on his removal from Bramley, by friends connected with various religious denominations, as an expression of their esteem for his character, and a memorial of an intercourse, the recollection of which will be retained as long as life shall last." The Rev. J. Walcott, in a speech full of emotion, acknowledged the receipt of the testimonial. The meeting was subsequently addressed by the Revs. Jonas Foster, of Farsley; J. P. Chown, of Bradford; Mr. W. Heaton, of Leeds; Mr. Schofield, of Newtharps; the Revs. W. Guest and A. M. Stalker, of Leeds, and other gentlemen. The proceedings were brought to a close by singing "The Parting Hymn," and prayer offered by



the Rev. A. M. Stalker, of Leeds. Mr. Walcott preached his "farewell" sermon on Sunday evening last to a numerous and attentive congregation.

**THE REV. THOMAS W. AVELING.**—On Wednesday evening last, a social meeting was held in the school-room below the Kingsland Congregational Church, and afterwards a public meeting in the church, to welcome the above respected minister on his return to his pastoral duties. The Rev. E. Mannering presided. The Rev. G. Wilkinson of Enfield (who during Mr. Aveling's absence has frequently occupied his pulpit) opened the meeting with prayer. The Chairman, in a very appropriate speech, and in the name of the meeting, welcomed Mr. Aveling among them. A resolution proposed by Mr. Nay (one of the deacons of the church), seconded by Mr. Hartley (an active member), and supported by the Rev. Mr. Philip (as the senior minister in the district), expressing the hearty welcome of the congregation, was put, and of course carried with unanimity. The Chairman then called upon Mr. Aveling to address a few words to his people, but it was some moments before that gentleman could give vent to his feelings in speech. He said he heartily wished some one would speak for him—what to say he knew not—his heart was too full for utterance. Throughout the long period of his absence one thought had been ever before him—would those who formed his congregation and church meet him with the warmth and affection which they displayed at their parting? The numbers who had crowded there, however, to bid him welcome, clearly showed how vain were any fears he might have indulged. He was happy to tell them he was now in a better state of physical health than he had been for years past. Throughout the whole period of time which had elapsed since he left Malta, he had not had a day's illness. He had visited Egypt, traversed the length and breadth of Syria, visited the cities of Jerusalem, Constantinople, Athens, Rome, and Paris. If spared, it was his intention to deliver a course of six lectures upon what he had witnessed. The Rev. J. Watson, of Hackney, in a short speech congratulated both minister and people upon their re-union; and, after a few words from the Rev. Messrs. James and Edwards, the meeting adjourned.

### Correspondence.

#### THE MILTON CLUB.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Questions having been asked in various quarters as to the intentions of the committee in regard to the time of opening the club, I think it desirable to state, for general information, that no further delay will be allowed than what is essential to wise conclusions upon all the circumstances of the case, especially with reference to their recent purchases.

The moment that sum was obtained, which was fixed upon by the debenture holders, last year, as necessary to carry out the entire plans of the committee, they opened negotiations for the purchase of contiguous property, for the more convenient and profitable adaptation of that part which was intended for the hall. Until they had brought these negotiations to a conclusion, it was obviously premature to do anything towards laying out the ground; and having now accomplished this object, the committee are devoting their unremitting attention to the building details.

The character of the additional purchases they have made has induced some gentlemen to advise a still further postponement of building operations, as affording the prospect of a better distribution of the ground. The committee feel the weight of this suggestion, and will not finally decide without giving it the fullest consideration; but they deem it so important to begin at once, that they will permit no other delay than what is demanded by the interests of their constituents and the advancement of the great object in view.

In a communication like the present (which I may remark is not official) it is impossible to enter into details as to the difficulties with which the committee have had to contend in so novel an undertaking, but I have no doubt that the results will fully justify their proceedings and whatever delay may have occurred.—I am, Sir, &c.,

JOHN BENNETT.

35, Ludgate-hill, 5th June, 1854.

### "THE POOR MAN'S CHURCH."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Last month a paragraph appeared in your journal, briefly stating that two labourers of Ringwood had been imprisoned in Winchester gaol for non-payment of Church-rates. Inquiry into the facts of the case having been made, permit me to place them before your readers, as furnished by a memorial which has just been presented to the Home Secretary.

Henry Larkham and Isaac Early—labourers, earning less than 9s. 6d. a-week, and each having a wife and two children dependent on them for support—were on the 25th of April arrested on a warrant for non-payment of Church-rates; and, though offering no resistance, were handcuffed together. After being kept in durance for nineteen hours, without food, they were conveyed (from Ringwood) to Winchester gaol, where, on their arrival, they "were treated in every respect as common felons, were stripped, washed, had their clothes exchanged for the prison garb, and were allowed no communication with their friends—not even by letter." They were kept in continual confinement, in a cell measuring nine feet by five, except for an hour daily, when they were compelled to take exercise in the open air, during which time they had to wear "a sort of mask to prevent their seeing around them."

That they did not continue thus to suffer for two

months, instead of for a few days, is due to the humanity of their neighbours, whose subscriptions obtained their release.

"Another brace of Church-rate martyrs!" the speakers of the Drummond school will exclaim. But it is not so, for it is expressly averred that the victims did not refuse payment on conscientious grounds; but, from their extreme poverty, were unable to pay the 1s. 9d. and 1s. 10½d. respectively, which the "Poor Man's Church," *par excellence*, had demanded of them.

Sir, I will not trust myself to give expression to the feelings of indignation excited by this latest illustration of the spirit of the system on which the Church Establishment is based. When the facts become known, as they will be, in the House of Commons and through the press, they will of themselves produce an impression greater than can be made by any number of denunciatory epithets. But let Anti-state-churchmen pin their opponents to the important admission of Lord John Russell,—that if an Establishment exists justice *must* be violated; for, when that comes to be the prevailing conviction, the doom of such institutions will be sealed.

I observe that the *John Bull*—a High Church journal—takes precisely the same view of the matter as his lordship, holding to Church-rates because the arguments advanced against them are equally good against something of far greater magnitude, and acknowledging—"We may as well try at once the issue to which the matter must come at last, viz., whether it be better that the State should make provision for the religious instruction and superintendence of the great mass of the people, with full liberty to those who differ from the religion of the State to pursue their own course,—or that the State should take no cognizance of religion, leaving every individual to make for himself any or no religious provision as he may think fit."

You, Mr. Editor, and the readers of your journal will, I have no doubt, regard with great complacency such an indication of progress as this—that the separation of Church and State is now pushed forward for discussion by those who ten years ago laughed at the simplicity which regarded it as other than an "unpractical abstraction."

Yours truly,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS.

2, Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street, June 6th.

### Parliamentary Proceedings.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Civil Bills (Ireland) Act, for amendment of, 2.  
Church Rates, for the abolition of, 31.  
County Boards, in favour of, 1.  
Reformatory Institutions in favour of, 1.  
Malt Duty, against increase of, 2.  
Medical Practitioners Bill, against, 6.  
Oaths Bill, against, 3.  
Oxford University Bill, for alteration of, 1.  
Poor Law Officers (Ireland), for diminution of, 3.  
Public Houses, for closing on Sunday, 22.  
Settlement and Removal Bill, against, 1.  
University Tests, for abolition of, 2.  
Ballot, in favour of, 7.  
Landlord and Tenant (Ireland), for alteration of law of, 7.  
Medical Graduates (London) University Bill, against, 1.  
Russia, to resist aggressions of, 1.  
Wine Duty, for reduction of, 1.

##### BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Church Building Acts Amendment (No. 2.) Bill.  
Excise Duties (Sugar) Bill.  
Bill of Exchange (No. 2.) Bill.  
Police Bill.  
Literary and Scientific Institutions Bill.  
Parochial Schoolmasters (Scotland) Bill.  
Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill.  
Leasing Powers (Ireland) Bill.

##### BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Public Revenue and Consolidated Fund Charges Bill.  
Juries and Juries (Ireland) Bill.  
Registration of Births, &c. (Scotland) Bill.

##### CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Oxford University Bill.  
Exchequer Bonds (£5,000,000) Bill.  
Excise Duties Bill.  
Customs Duties (Sugar) Bill.  
Public Revenue, &c., Bill.

##### BILLS READ A THIRD TIME, AND PASSED.

Income Tax (No. 2.) Bill.  
Church Building Acts Amendment Bill.  
Industrial and Provident Societies Bill.  
Excise Duties Bill.

### DEBATES.

#### THE WAR.

Various matters connected with the war have again been brought under notice in both Houses of Parliament.

Replying to the Earl of Ellenborough, the Duke of Newcastle declared his assurance that the British troops in the East were amply provided with the means of transport. The accident that a few boats had been borrowed from the French on a single occasion, afforded no just cause for suspecting any deficiency in that respect on our part.

In reply to Lord Beaumont, Lord Canning stated the arrangements which had been made for securing an efficient postal communication with the fleets in the Baltic and the Black Sea.

In the House of Commons, in reply to Mr. MASTERMAN, on Thursday, Sir J. GRAHAM repeated, with some additions, the explanations he had given upon previous occasions relating to the blockade of Russian ports in the Baltic and Black Sea, and to the effect of a *de facto* blockade, without formal proclamation, upon neutral vessels, as well as vessels belonging to the belligerent Powers.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE put a question to the Duke of Newcastle with respect to the alleged intention of the Government not to blockade the Russian ports in the White Sea. The Duke of Newcastle complained of the practice of putting questions without giving sufficient notice. All he could say

was, that at present the Government deemed it inexpedient to blockade the ports in question, but the noble lord might be sure that, whenever the Government determined to establish such a blockade, due notice would be given in the *Gazette*.

Lord BEAUMONT having remarked upon the politeness with which the war was carried on, the Earl of ABERDEEN replied:—

With regard to the apprehensions of the noble lord as to the manner with which the war is to be carried on, he may set himself at ease; he may depend that no war was ever undertaken which was carried on with more vigour or with more determination than this will be, as far as our power admits of it, without, however, acting upon such horrible notions as had been uttered by the noble lord—without firing upon all parts of a town, even upon the hospitals, without any such proceedings—that nothing will be left undone by the Government to arrive at that conclusion which will best be produced by the vigorous conduct of the war. (Cheers.)

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH wished to know what determination the Government had come to as to the creation of a separate Secretary at War. The Earl of ABERDEEN replied, that the matter was under consideration though he was not at present in a position to state the decision of the Government on this point, but he firmly believed that a result would be arrived at satisfactory to the House and to the country.

In reply to Mr. HUME, on Friday, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that the law officers of the Crown were of opinion that the Ionian Republic could not be considered a neutral state, and that Ionian subjects must take part with Great Britain in the war.

In reply to another question by Mr. HUME, as to the operations in the Baltic, Sir JAMES GRAHAM made the following statement:—

The Admiralty received to-day a despatch from Sir Charles Napier, dated the 23rd of May, off Hango, where he was at anchor, with eight sail of the line, in the Bay of Hango, at the entrance of the Gulf of Finland. He sends an account of an exploit which, though not on a large scale, is yet a very gallant feat of arms, performed by one of Her Majesty's frigates and a small steamer. It appears that on the 21st of May they heard of three large merchantmen in an inlet about ten miles inland, and placed under the fire of a fortress of very considerable strength. The *Arrogant*, commanded by Captain Yelverton, and a small steamer, the *Hecla*, under the command of an officer very well known to the House and the country—I mean Captain Hall, formerly better known as Captain Nemesis Hall (hear, hear)—for his distinguished conduct in China (hear, hear); these vessels proceeded up the inlet, which is very narrow, and the latter part of it under the fire of musketry from a considerable military force on shore. Captain Hall cut out, under the fire of the battery and within 400 yards of it, the only one of the three merchantmen that was afloat, and brought it off, having triumphantly executed the duty imposed upon him. (Cheers.) Sir Charles Napier observes that this is an exploit worthy of the British arms in the best times of our naval history. (Cheers.) And what must be particularly satisfactory to the House is, that notwithstanding the doubts that were entertained with regard to the manning of the British navy, Captain Hall received his appointment only three months ago. (Hear.) His was one of the last ships commissioned, and he manned the ship in a very short time, and with a very considerable proportion of what might be called landmen. If I had been called on to mention the ship that was least perfectly manned, I should have named the *Hecla*; yet such is the character of British seamen, that the execution of this feat of arms was performed with the most brilliant courage. (Cheers.) Sir Charles Napier adds, that on the following day, in an attack on two forts, the conduct of two others of her Majesty's ships was very distinguished, and the whole state of the fleet was reported by Sir Charles Napier as most satisfactory. (Hear, hear.) The French fleet had not joined. It was expected to join in five or six days from the 23rd, and by this time I have no doubt the French and English fleet combined is in the Gulf of Finland, forming twenty-eight sail-of-the-line, with frigates and other vessels in proportion. (Cheers.)

Sir G. HEATHCOTE inquired whether it was intended to take any steps to make the dress and accoutrements of the army more convenient, and better adapted to hot climates? Mr. S. HERBERT was glad to be able to answer in the affirmative. The Commander-in-Chief had called for patterns of the uniforms and accoutrements of the different armies of Europe; and, with regard to the stock, he hoped the arrangement would be perfectly satisfactory. The military authorities were perfectly alive to the subject; and as respected shaving, this matter, he said (in reply to Mr. H. HERBERT), had engaged the attention of Lord Raglan, who would act as observation and experience suggested.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Sir J. PAKINGTON, on Thursday, moved the adoption of a series of resolutions prepared by the select committee, of which he was the chairman, designed to facilitate the transaction of business in the representative branch of the Legislature. The resolutions involved a variety of modifications in the forms of the House—their principal effect being to diminish the number of opportunities now afforded, during the passage of any bill through its several stages, or upon reporting votes from committees of supply, for renewing debates on the general principle, or for raising questions of miscellaneous interest. In one case he urged that important measures were often lost through the delay they underwent; in the other, supply votes of great importance were passed without proper consideration, the time and patience of members being exhausted by preliminary discussions interposed concerning topics of irrelevant issue.

Various practical objections and suggestions were urged in the course of a miscellaneous discussion upon these resolutions. Several of the series were agreed to, with some slight modifications. To the last resolution, which provided that the adjournment of the House over Saturday should be a matter of course instead of being specially moved, much opposition was offered by Mr. BRIGHT and other members. The



opportunities afforded to independent members had recently suffered considerable retrenchment, and ought not to be still further diminished. Mr. DISRAELI and Lord J. RUSSELL concurring in this view, the resolution was withdrawn.

#### OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

The House sat again in committee on the Oxford University Reform Bill, on Thursday, and got through clauses 26 and 27. On clause 26—providing for the opening of private halls by members of Convocation, subject to specified restrictions—Mr. EWART moved the insertion of words enabling "resident householders" to provide lodgings for the reception of students, as it would lessen the expense of attending the University. Mr. GLADSTONE and others objected that the course proposed would break down the system of discipline; and the committee agreed with them, rejecting the amendment by 112 to 41.

Mr. GOULBURN moved the omission of words from the clause which admitted matriculated students to "all the privileges of the University, without being of necessity entered as members of any college or existing hall." On this point there was considerable discussion. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON and Mr. WALPOLE supported Mr. Goulburn; opposed by Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER, Lord JOHN RUSSELL, and Sir WILLIAM HEATHCOTE. On a division, the amendment was negatived by 205 to 113. Clause 26, as amended, and clause 27, were then agreed to. In moving that the Chairman report progress, Lord JOHN RUSSELL stated that Ministers proposed to make considerable alterations in the remaining part of the bill, in order to save time. Sixteen clauses of great detail will be omitted, and others substituted. Speaking generally, it is proposed that the commissioners should have certain powers, which, if the colleges agreed to, or unless they dissented from them to the extent of two-thirds, should enable the commission to enact certain statutes in regard to the colleges. The number of the commissioners will be increased. He proposed to print the clauses, and take Thursday week for proceeding with the bill. The Chairman reported progress, and the House resumed.

#### THE DELINQUENT BOROUGHES.

The disfranchisement of the five delinquent boroughs gave rise to another debate in the House of Commons on Friday. Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved that no new writs should be issued to Canterbury, Cambridge, Barnstable, Hull, or Maldon, without seven days' previous notice being given in the Votes. The discussion turned upon the propriety of issuing writs to these boroughs at all; at least, until the Bribery Bills before the select committee should have been disposed of. Mr. DISRAELI supported the motion, because the House ought not to be taken by surprise; but he would not pledge himself to vote for the suspension of the writs until the Bribery Bills were returned to the House. Mr. THOMAS DUNCOMBE lectured the House on its insincerity and inconsistency in dealing with the subjects of bribery and Parliamentary reform; and defended the Government—averring that Lord John Russell has not abandoned his principles, and that Lord Aberdeen has made as good and stout speeches on Parliamentary reform as any member of that House. In reply to Mr. OWEN STANLEY, Lord JOHN RUSSELL stated that Government have no particular measures to propose with respect to these boroughs, but they rely on the Bribery Bills. Mr. HUME and others suggested the ballot as an available remedy, now that Lord John had exhausted all his own means. To which Lord JOHN RUSSELL replied, "My own means are not exhausted." Motion agreed to.

#### THE PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

In committee on the Public Revenue and Consolidated Fund Charges Bill, Mr. GLADSTONE gave a general outline of the measure, which must be taken in conjunction with the estimate of the charges for collecting the revenue. It was a step towards uniformity and simplicity in the handling of public money. The bill contains two schedules. The one particularizes sums which at present are deducted from the Customs and Excise revenues and applied to the payment of the salaries of the Scotch judges and other purposes in Scotland: these payments are to be transferred to the Consolidated Fund. The other schedule enumerates salaries which are now paid from the Consolidated Fund, and from certain branches of the revenue, and which will henceforth be voted by Parliament. Under this arrangement comes the cost of collecting the various branches of the revenue. There are certain pensions not comprised in schedule A, which Government has arranged to buy with advantage to the public. By bringing all these charges under the control of Parliament, an additional security will be afforded for the performance of its duty by the Executive Government.

A general approval of the plan was expressed by the House.

#### THE WAR BUDGET.

Two of the bills for carrying out the war budget were advanced a stage. In committee on the Customs-duties (Sugar) bill, Mr. MOFFAT moved, as an amendment on the question, that 12s. per hundredweight be the duty on Yellow Muscovado, the omission of the differential duty; negatived by 69 to 12. On the third reading of the Excise-duties Bill, there were two divisions. Mr. JOHN O'CONNELL moved the postponement of the third reading to that day fortnight, in order to enable Irish distillers to make representations to the Government with respect to drawback: negatived by 61 to 32. Mr. BEAMISH renewed the struggle by moving the adjournment of the debate: negatived by 71 to 23. The bill passed.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. HUME has given notice of his intention to move, after the recess, that in the opinion of the House it will promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the working classes if the British Museum and Na-

tional Gallery be opened for public inspection after the hours of public worship on Sundays, and during the hours that public-houses and gin-shops are permitted to be open by law.

On Thursday Lord CAMPBELL asked Lord Lyndhurst whether he intended to introduce a bill this session for the admission of Jews to Parliament. Lord LYNDHURST complained of the noble and learned lord hanging a speech on such a question. He should like to know whether, if he now introduced the bill, his noble and learned friend would support it? If there was any probability of passing such a bill through the House this session, he might bring it forward, but he thought there was none, and certainly there was no chance of passing a bill this session which referred exclusively to members of the Jewish persuasion.

Lord CAMPBELL, on Friday, announced that he should withdraw the Unauthorised Negotiations Bill.

The Royal assent was given by commission on Friday to the following amongst other bills:—County Court Extension Acts, Boundary Survey (Ireland), Navy Pay, &c., Manning the Navy, Devonport and Keyham Tunnel (No. 2), and Guild of Literature and Art.

Mr. GIBSON has given notice that, on the meeting of the House after the recess, he would ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer what course he meant to take in consequence of the resolution come to by the House on the 16th of May last, to the effect that the newspaper stamp law was ill-defined and unequally enforced?

The first business of the House of Commons on Thursday and Friday is to be the Estimates, commencing with the Miscellaneous.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in reply to Lord CAMPBELL, stated that there was no foundation for the report that the Government were about to abandon the Testamentary Bill.

Lord PALMERSTON has obtained leave to bring in a bill to render more effectual the police in counties and boroughs in England and Wales, after giving a brief explanation of its nature.

Mr. HUTT has obtained leave to bring in a bill to afford greater facilities for the establishment of institutions for the promotion of literature, science, and the fine arts, and to provide for their better regulation.

The Common Law Procedure Bill has been read a third time and passed in the House of Lords. A motion made by Lord ST. LEONARD's to omit the clause relating to oaths was rejected by 41 to 31.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the LORD CHANCELLOR said, that the Commissioners of Criminal Law, having now completed the bills which each had drawn up for the amendment of the law, he proposed to lay on the table those bills which had not already been laid before the House; and he proposed to move, after the recess, that they should all be submitted to a select committee, with instructions to report on the best course to be adopted on this important subject. The Criminal Law Amendment Bills, Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, were brought up and respectively read a first time.

On Friday Parliament adjourned for the Whitsuntide holidays; the Lords until Friday, the Commons until Thursday (to-morrow.)

The Stonor Committee has presented its report to the House of Commons. It states that Mr. Moore positively undertook to prove that persons "having the ear of the Colonial Office must have been cognizant of Mr. Stonor's corrupt practices;" and that he received the appointment, not in ignorance of such practices but because of them, at the instance of Irish members having influence with the Colonial department. The committee unanimously resolve, that the evidence altogether fails to establish the charge brought forward by Mr. Moore with reference to the motives which influenced the Duke of Newcastle; they state that Mr. Moore has withdrawn in the fullest manner the charge of political corruption against the Duke of Newcastle; and they "regret" that on such insufficient ground so serious an accusation was preferred. At the same time, they think that the "Colonial Office" made the appointment without due caution and discrimination.

## Foreign and Colonial News.

### AMERICA.

The Nebraska bill has been fiercely debated in the House of Representatives. It was read a first time on the 23rd by a majority of nine votes, and was passed by 113 to 100. In a sitting which lasted from noon on Thursday, the 11th, to 20 minutes to 12 on the Friday night, such a violent dispute arose that it is stated that but for the interference of the Sergeant-at-Arms a fight would instantly have ensued, and probably would have become general. The Washington correspondent of the *Tribune* states that several members now wear arms in the House. According to the correspondent of the *Tribune*, one of the deputy Speakers (for the Speaker cannot retain the chair during a thirty-six hours' sitting) had latterly begun to limit those who address the House to half the usual time.

The Senate had adopted a resolution directing inquiry as to the propriety of making permanent provisions for rewarding those who may rescue life and property on board American ships, and particularly the captain and crew of the *Washington*, who recently brought to this port the passengers of the wrecked ship *Winchester*.

According to the *New York Herald*, the Secretary of the Navy, probably in consideration of the unsettled state of the relations with Spain, had issued an order directing that all vessels of war on the point of departure should be delayed. The Senate had adopted a resolution offered by Mr. CLAYTON, to the following effect:—"That the Committee on Foreign Relations

be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for such restrictions upon the power of American consuls residing in the Spanish West India Islands as will prevent the abuse of the American flag in protecting persons engaged in the African slave trade."

The Earl of Elgin had arrived at Washington. His visit, according to the American journals, is connected with the negotiations respecting the fisheries.

Mr. Everett has resigned his position of senator in Congress, owing to physical infirmity.

From Mexico the accounts are conflicting. It is stated that Santa Anna was on his return to the capital, and that his wife had set out to meet him. It was inferred that Acapulco had been taken and occupied by the army, and also that Santa Anna had re-established his communication with the city. Another account, however, and a later one, states that Santa Anna summoned Acapulco to surrender, which was refused by Alvarez, who sallied out, attacked Santa Anna's troops, and took 300 prisoners. Santa Anna fled.

By the *Deseret News* we learn that the reports of the travelling elders in Utah show general prosperity in settlements, crops, buildings, manufactures, and spiritual matters. There was a slight earthquake in portions of the territory on the 1st of December. The Mormon legislature of Utah met on the 12th of December. Hon. Willard Richards was chosen President, of the Council, and Hon. Jedediah Grant, Speaker of the House. The message of Governor Young is a straightforward, business document, and represents the finances of the territory in a prosperous condition. The emigration to Utah the past year is estimated at 10,000 souls, a considerable portion from the Northern European states and British Isles. The message urges the construction of the Pacific railway, and takes a sensible view of territorial improvements, establishment and fostering of manufactures, &c. Stock raising and grazing is occupying a large share of the attention of the citizens of Utah.

### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Queen Victoria's birthday was celebrated at Berlin and Vienna by diplomatic banquets.

Lieut. Strain's party, reported to have been lost in their attempted exploration of a new Darien route, are all safe again on the seaboard, with the exception of one man, who died on the return march.

The *fracas* at the Falkland Islands is likely to be settled in the one proper way, viz., by payment of compensation to the American captain whose ship was arbitrarily seized by an English ship of war, against the law and usages of nations.

M. Ducos, the French Minister of Marine, is the fortunate father of twins. On their birth, the Emperor sent Madame Ducos a portrait of the King of Rome; and the two infants are to be named by the Emperor and Empress in person, Napoleon and Eugene.

Charles Kruino, a Prussian, formerly in the army, has killed himself at Paris in a way to create a great and painful sensation—he blew his brains out with a pistol in a front box of the Opera-house during the performance of *Le Prophète*. The performance at once closed, and the audience hurried away.

The reports from the various West India islands bear a strong resemblance to each other; the islands generally are described as "healthy and quiet." At Jamaica, and also at Nevis, there were a few isolated cases of cholera reported. Governor Barkly was getting on well.

Pitcairn's Island, the Paradise of the Pacific, is now overpeopled, and the descendants of the *Bounty* are often in want. Last year Admiral Moresby generously relieved them; but, for their permanent safety, it is proposed to transport them to Norfolk Island as soon as the convicts have been cleared away.

It is stated that the Duke of Cambridge was not allowed to land at Brindisi, the other day, by the Neapolitan authorities, when the steamer touched that port. His Royal Highness sent for the British vice-consul, who is an Italian, and requested to speak with him. The police authorities, however, refused to let that officer of the British crown communicate with the Royal visitor.

The railway running between Susa and Turin, was inaugurated on the 22nd of May, in the presence of the King and Queen of Sardinia, the Duke and Duchess of Genoa, the Ministers of the Crown, and a large concourse of people. The opening of this line, although only thirty-two miles in length, is an important event, as it will tend to break down the local and exclusive spirit which has been the bane of Italy.

The chief news of interest from the Cape of Good Hope comes from the Orange River free state. The troops had been withdrawn from the colony, and the fort erected by Sir Harry Smith at Bloemfontein is now guarded by Burghers under the Government of the Volksraad. The chiefs Moshesh and Moroko had been on a friendly visit to the new Government. The provisional Government, to whom Sir George Clerk transferred the territory, handed their authority over to the Volksraad on the 29th of March. The constitution adopts the Roman Dutch law; the Volksraad, or Legislative Council, enjoys supreme administrative and financial power, and is elected for four years. The President of the State is elected every five years.

It was said at a recent meeting of the Society of Arts, that five-sixths of the whole heat produced in an ordinary English fire goes up the chimney with the smoke to waste. If fresh coal, instead of being placed on the top of the fire, where it must unavoidably emit visible pitchy vapour or smoke, be introduced beneath the burning red-hot coal, so that its pitch, in rising as vapour, must pass among the parts of the burning mass, it would be partly resolved into the inflammable coal gas, and would itself burn and inflame whatever else it touched. Various attempts have been made to feed fires in this way.



## M. KOSSUTH AT SHEFFIELD.

On Monday a public demonstration was made at Sheffield in favour of the nationality of Poland. The proceeding originated with the Polish and Hungarian exiles and their friends, and it was publicly announced that M. Kossuth would arrive by railway from London at 12 o'clock, proceed from the station to Paradise-square, there address an open-air meeting, and that another meeting would be held in the Music-hall in the evening, at which the Hungarian patriot would also speak. M. Kossuth, however, arrived at a quarter past nine by a train from Peterborough, to which place he had travelled the previous evening in order to insure the certainty of his appearance in Sheffield at the time announced. M. Kossuth and his friends proceeded from the station in carriages to the residence of Mr. Alderman Solly, at Low-fields, and after breakfasting there returned to the station at 12 o'clock. Before that hour a concourse of people, to the number of many thousands, had assembled around the entrance of the station. On M. Kossuth appearing, he was received with most enthusiastic plaudits.

After Alderman Solly had introduced M. Kossuth, Mr. R. LEADER, jun., moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting desires to convey to his Excellency M. Louis Kossuth its hearty and sincere welcome to the town of Sheffield; and to express their high admiration of his patriotic conduct as Governor of Hungary, during the late struggle for freedom, and to assure him of its deep sympathy with him in his exile.

Mr. Councillor BROADBENT seconded the resolution.

Mr. A. KRYZANOWSKI (a Polish refugee) had great pleasure in expressing, on behalf of the Polish exiles in Sheffield, their warmest feelings of sympathy with the noble chief of Hungary, under whom they had had the greatest pleasure in fighting against the enemies of their country and of his country, and against the enemies of all human kind. On behalf of the Polish exiles, he supported the warm welcome which had been given to Kossuth.

The resolution was carried unanimously and with hearty acclamation.

M. Kossuth was received with protracted cheering. After a reference to his ceaseless anxiety and to the sympathies of the people with the cause of freedom, he proceeded to say that the moment for action was drawing near. In vain Cabinet diplomacy strained every nerve to tear from the lips of the oppressed nations the ripe fruit of long-cherished hope. Such events would baffle their tricks, as they had baffled them until now. With the permission of the meeting he would speak his mind on the subject. (Cheers, and cries of "Out with it.") M. Kossuth went on to say:—

Gentlemen, wherever I go, and whenever I happen to hear speaking about the war, I meet with the opinion that Russia has grown dangerous to the freedom of Europe, and that she must be checked in her encroachments upon the independence of nations. So far, all is well. In England there appears to be a universal agreement upon the subject. (Cheers.) But when we look to the diplomatic despatches, and to certain nasty protocols, manufactured by scores—this great object of the little statesmen of our sickly age—or when we listen to the interpellations, declarations, and orations in a certain place, we are astonished to see what pains are taken to couch the plain truth under unmeaning generalities; we are astonished to see with what anxious solicitude some politicians are shunning to define what they mean by the "freedom of Europe," which they pretend to be so tenderly careful of, and in what manner they mean to check that power of Russia which they profess to be dangerous to Europe. I would warn the people of England, that if they let this shuffling go on thus for a while, without impressing a true English stamp upon England's policy, it will discover with horror that its gallant brethren and sons have shed their blood, and it has been made to pay its millions, for an aim just contrary to what it has meant to fight and pay for. (Cheers.) You will have meant to fight for the independence and liberties of Europe, and you will discover that you have fought for securing oppression over many a nation on the continent. (Hear, hear.) Yes, gentlemen, you may expect, in reward for your blood and sacrifices, a miserable paper treaty, good for the cheesemongers—(laughter)—and at the utmost Russian despotism a little tided, until it gets restored by an afternoon nap (laughter); but in its stead Austrian despotism made a great deal stronger and more secure. ("Crush both.") Now, I ask you, do you hate Russian despotism? (cries of "Yes!") You do. Again, I ask you, do you like Austrian despotism? (Loud cries of "No, no!") Do you like that despotism which quartered Poland, assassinated Hungary, and murdered Italy? Do you like that despotism? (Prolonged cries of "No!") No, you don't. Well, if you don't like it, let the mighty word of the people of England be lawfully told up to the heavens and down to Westminster Hall, because danger is knocking at your doors. England is about to be married to Austrian despotism—England is about to pledge that your blood shall be shed and your money shall be spent to make despotism sure. Gentlemen, if you will consider the origin, the progress, and the rational issue of the present war, you will come to the following conclusions:—It is the partition of Poland by which Russia has grown dangerous to the world. It is the partition of Poland which brought Russia down to the Danubian Principalities, and hence to my own Hungary; and it is the oppression of Hungary by Russian interference which was the stepping-stone to the present ambitious daring of the Czar. Every child in Europe is aware of these facts. (Cheers.) Had England not neglected her duty in those former instances—had England not allowed the spoliation of Poland—had it protested against Russian interference in Hungary, instead of having encouraged it—yes, encouraged, by declaring solemnly, officially, that "England has no opinion to express on the matter"—you would have been spared the dangers and sacrifices of the present war, without the spending of one English shilling, without the shedding of one drop of English blood. (Cheers.) And is Turkey necessary to Europe's security, and is Turkey to be maintained, and is Russia to be checked? Then either there is no sincerity in the profession, or no political meaning in the design, without Poland reconstructed an independent nation, and Hungary independent and free. (Loud cheers.) Let any one reflect upon the nature of the evil and its remedy—the

name of Poland and the name of Hungary must be present to his mind. The quartered limbs of the former and the pale bleeding image of the second must rise like the spirit of Banquo, with a warning finger before his eyes. (Cheers.) And yet these, in the misty atmosphere of secret diplomacy, before the rising spectre, shut their eyes, and strive to lull their conscience in the belief, that blinding their own eyes will make the warning finger disappear. (Cheers.)

He went on to compare his position in respect to the English people with that of the young Emperor of Austria—himself received with universal demonstrations of popular favour, the Emperor fawned upon and courted by a small section. The question was—Which was England?

Is it that which sympathises with freedom and with the oppressed, and which execrates despots and oppressors? Or is it that which is plotting against the resurrection of the oppressed nationalities, and is courting the friendship and the alliance of the oppressors? Which of these two be England? That is not a question for me to decide. But so much I know, that the people of England is England. (Cheers.) Beside the people, I know of dignitaries, representatives, of magistrates and servants of England; but I know of no England else. England—that is the nation. From which England even her Majesty, your Queen, never thought to separate herself. Yes, it is the people which is abiding and immortal; it is the people which, by its ant-like industry, made, in the sweat of its brow, this country what it is. (Cheers.) It is the people whose shillings and pence make up the millions of the treasury of England, by which England is held up, and England's battles fought, and England's policy carried out; and it is the people which furnishes those stout arms and brave hearts, who fight England's battles by land and by sea, and who bleed and die for England's honour and England's interest. (Loud cheers.) If that be the case, then I am of opinion, that if the people of England be England, if it be the people which has to pay and bleed, the people's voice should be heard, and should be respected in the decision of what is England's will. If that be not the case, then you are no constitutional people; your constitution is despotism in disguise. (Hear, hear.) I am led to believe that, as well from a natural sympathy for liberty, justice, and right, as also from the instinctive knowledge of the fact that the welfare, interest, and honour of England go all that way, the people did and does not shrink from all the dangers and sacrifices of a great war, by the only reason, because it means to fight for freedom, because it believes that a real advantage to the cause of approved nationalities will be the issue. I am led to believe that it is by this reason that the war is popular with the people of England. Is it so, or is it not so? Please answer me. Am I right or am I wrong in my supposition? (Cries of "Yes.") You say "Yes," and, upon my soul, a brave yes it was. I thank you for the word. And verily, I believe, if this question were put to the people, and the people let free to follow the impulses of its wise instinct, uninfluenced, unprevented by any party tricks, village by village, borough by borough, town by town, four out of five, the people would answer that question all over England just as you did. Now, if such be the opinion of the people of England, and if the Parliament has to represent the people's will, how is it, then, that we have not yet heard one word spoken in that direction there? How is it that the people's will has not been seconded in the councils of the nation? How is it that England is leaning just the other way, and straining every diplomatic nerve to ally despotic Austria to you? Why, it is simply because the people of England have not pronounced their will until now. Let that will be spoken, and I trust there shall not be wanting good and true men in Parliament to represent it, and to make the people's will efficient. Gentlemen, it is not possible to make long speeches in the open air, so I will only say a war is no slight matter any how. You should insist upon a serious issue for your sacrifices. You should insist that no power shall be left to despotism and despots to drive you into new wars by encroaching upon the freedom, the rights, and the independence of nations. You should insist to attain, by your present sacrifices, a true and lasting peace. Now, neither of these aims can be attained without Poland, Hungary, and Italy restored to their national rights; and, especially, Russia's overwhelming power cannot be reduced without Poland being reconstructed an independent nation, with its national territory; nor can the integrity and independence of Turkey be secured without a free and independent Hungary. All these aims would be subverted by England taking despotic Austria for her ally. (Cheers.) Then you would fight for Austrian despotism, and not for freedom. That cannot, that would not suit you. (Cheers.) Therefore, if you agree with me, that the honour, the interests, and the sympathies of the people of England are all for the oppressed, and not for the oppressors, pronounce your will—protest against marrying England to despotic Austria. (Cheers.) Sign petitions, and do all that you lawfully can do for freedom, and against serving oppression on the continent. Then happen what may, at least the world will know that it is not the people of England which Austrian despotism shall have gained for an ally by its Vienna protocols. And it will be remembered that men are passing, but the people rest. This evening, I shall have a more explanatory speech on the subject. I hope the press will not refuse to give publicity to it. (Cheers.) That will be but fair-play. Read it if you please. And with these I will but say in conclusion—that I was very glad to meet you; that I thank you sincerely for the honour and kindness you have done me; and I pray God that He may bless you, and yours, and reward your country by the blessings of a lasting true freedom, glory, and prosperity, for the good it may do to the nations who suffer from oppression and despotism. (Immense cheering.)

The meeting was then addressed by several speakers, and Mr. WOSTENHOLM read the petition, which was to be signed by the chairman, and sent to Earl Fitzwilliam for presentation to the House of Lords, and to Mr. Roebuck for presentation to the House of Commons. The petition prayed that means might be taken for securing the independence of Poland, and that the war might not be terminated until that object had been fully and irrevocably secured. It was unanimously adopted.

Mr. HARVEY moved, and Mr. WOSTENHOLM seconded, the appointment of a committee to receive the subscriptions, and to apply them in conjunction with the Polish committee in London.

The CHAIRMAN, in replying to the usual vote of thanks for presiding, thanked them for the assurance they had given that nothing they could do for the oppressed people of Poland and Hungary would remain undone.

The meeting broke up about two o'clock, with three cheers for Kossuth.

## BIRMINGHAM SCHOLASTIC INSTITUTION FOR THE SONS OF MINISTERS.

The third annual meeting of the friends of the above institution was held, on Friday last, in the Board-room of the Establishment, Shireland-hall, near Birmingham, James Baldwin, Esq., the mayor, presided, there being present a select and highly respectable company.

The MAYOR, in taking the chair, said it afforded him great pleasure to preside on that occasion, inasmuch as he was most decidedly favourable to education, which it was the object of that institution to promote. He hoped the boys in that school would duly appreciate the blessings of education, and avail themselves of the opportunity of obtaining it afforded to them by their friends and the subscribers of the institution. There had not been a very large sum spent on his own early education; and feeling, perhaps, to some little extent, the deficiency, he so much the more cordially recommended the youths before him to avail themselves of the opportunity which they then enjoyed.

The Rev. Dr. Gordon and the Rev. J. Arnold then briefly examined the boys, who evinced considerable proficiency in the various branches of learning in which they were interrogated. At the conclusion of this interesting part of the proceedings,

The Rev. CHARLES VINCE read the report of the committee, which expressed regret that Mr. Commissioner Hill, Q.C., had been unable to fulfil his intention of presiding on this occasion in consequence of illness. Twenty-seven boys had been aided by the contributions of the friends of the institution up to Christmas, 1853, and there are ten boys in the school who have lost one or both their parents by death. The report proceeds:—

Your committee believe that this system of helping those who are most anxious, and who are to some extent able to help themselves, has had the effect of securing candidates for the school from among a class likely to profit by the education it confers, and that this will continue to be the case, so that practically the advantages of the school will be enjoyed by those who derive from it a healthy stimulus, and are capable of appreciating the benefit they receive. The arrangements made with the Rev. T. H. Morgan, the principal of the school, secure the committee against all pecuniary responsibility beyond the payment of a stipulated sum for each boy placed under his care. They are educated with Mr. Morgan's private pupils. The amount paid for their board and tuition is provided, partly out of the subscriptions to the society, and partly by the parents or friends of the pupils, the exact proportion being a matter of arrangement in each case. No boy is permitted to enter the school unless at least ten guineas a year are paid by his parents or friends. Your committee feel by this arrangement they secure the advantages of a Public Institution, without incurring the liabilities and risks attending the establishment of a school under the management of salaried officers.

In proof of the efficient manner in which the school is conducted, it is only necessary to submit the certificates of four gentlemen, who, at your committee's request, undertook an examination of the pupils at Christmas last. The examination comprehended the whole school. The examiners' certificates are appended to this report. To these certificates your committee have pleasure in adding a testimonial from the Rev. Dr. Hamilton, of London, minister of the Free Church of Scotland, who has during the last month visited the school.

Rather more than three years have now elapsed since the establishment of this institution. During the first half-year only ten boys were placed under instruction, while this year your Committee has extended its benefits to twenty-seven boys.

The report concluded by pointing out the desirableness of extending the sphere of these operations, that by their agency a larger number of youths might be benefited.

To secure this object it is thought desirable that gentlemen residing at a distance from Birmingham, who are willing to use their influence in the localities in which they reside in securing increased pecuniary aid for the institution, should be added to the number of the committee. Such persons will greatly assist in the management of the society, by correspondence with the committee, and by occasional attendance at its meetings. Several gentlemen are prepared to connect themselves with the society in this way, and your committee would be glad to have power conferred upon them to make additions to their own numbers when thought desirable.

The increase of the society depends, also, on the co-operation of all those who are interested in its progress in securing for it an increased number of subscriptions.

The rev. gentleman next read the statement of accounts, from which it appeared that upwards of £700 had been received during the past year from the subscribers and friends of the pupils, and disbursed, leaving a deficiency of £70 upon the year's expenditure, occasioned by the advance in the price of provisions.

The Rev. Dr. Gordon moved the adoption of the report. He said he felt exceedingly pleased to find the institution progressing, and he hoped it would still further increase in numbers and utility. It was indispensably necessary that an institution like theirs should be upheld. The means of Dissenting ministers were very limited; they had no way by which they could acquire property, and many of them were unable to give their children that education which they stood in need of. He was highly pleased and delighted with the character of the school; and he begged to congratulate the esteemed principal on the cheering result of his labours, and to commend the institution to the attention of the benevolent. He congratulated all parties on the progress of the boys.



for he could truly say that they had answered well, and showed marked progress.

The Rev. THOMAS MORGAN briefly seconded the resolution.

J. C. WOODHILL, Esq., moved that the thanks of this meeting be presented to Dr. Melsom, the Rev. F. Watts, the Rev. Charles Vince, and also to the Head Master of the Birmingham School of Ornamental Art, for the kindness and ability with which they conducted the annual examination. He took this opportunity of saying, that having made repeated visits to the school, he had had ample opportunity of witnessing the domestic comfort which reigned in the establishment.

W. MORGAN, Esq., Town Clerk, seconded the motion, observing that they were truly obliged to the highly-competent examiners who had devoted their valuable time without stint or measure, to carry through an examination which proved most satisfactory.

The Rev. J. ARNOLD moved the appointment of the committee for the ensuing year, and took occasion to compliment the master of the school on the great success of the boys as set forth in the testimonials of the examiners.

The resolution was seconded by the Rev. J. M. COOMBS, and, after a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the proceedings terminated by singing the National Anthem, in which all the company heartily joined.

## THE WAR.

### OPERATIONS IN THE BALTIC.

At length authentic information has been received from the Baltic squadron, off Hango Point, and a summary of their proceedings was given by Sir James Graham, in the House of Commons, on Friday. The portion of the fleet under the immediate command of Sir Charles Napier arrived in Hango Roads on the 26th May, and anchored within the extreme range of the enemy's guns, but was allowed to take position unmolested. Three insular forts protect the entrance to the harbour, massive structures composed of huge blocks of granite, casemated, and heavily armed with guns as well as mortars. The principal fort, called Gustavus Varn, sweeps the approach to the harbour with a long tier of guns, and also from casemate batteries beneath. Two other forts, Doman's Holm and Gustavus Adolphus, to the eastward of the central fort, rake the entrance, and are pierced with embrasures looking to seaward. The shore all around is covered with masked batteries, raised in commanding positions, concealed by trees and branches, and not very readily distinguished. From the preparations on shore, it became evident that the Russians did not intend remaining silent.

In the afternoon of the 22nd, the *Dragon*, Captain Wilcox, was ordered to take up a position close by an island where a buoy had been previously laid down. This position flanked the principal fort, Gustavus Varn, and only two guns evidently, out of the many that mounted the walls, could be trained to bear upon her. The vessel was now ordered, by signal from the flag-ship, to try range of guns. She immediately opened fire. The first shot was good in direction, but fell a little short; the second struck the fort about the centre of the wall; the succeeding ones commenced ploughing up the turf forming the breastwork on the summit of the walls, and sending the fascines and sand-bags flying into the fort in profusion. After the second or third shot, the fort replied. The ship and fort thus continued the engagement for about three-and-a-half hours, during which several of the *Dragon's* shells burst right over the centre of the fort, and must have caused severe loss. Two of the shells which struck the walls did considerable mischief, smashing up one of the embrasures. The engagement was not a rapid one; on the contrary, a slow and steady fire was maintained on both sides. The *Magicienne* was ordered, somewhat later in the day, to a corresponding position on the opposite side of the small, narrow, rocky island in question, and opened an effective fire upon one of the masked batteries on the land side, into which she threw several shells. The battery replied with red-hot shot; but the *Magicienne* was evidently out of range. The *Basilisk* next joined the group. The *Hecla*, Captain Hall, was employed in engaging the fort Gustavus Adolphus. Several of her shot and shell told with great effect. All the shots from the fort against the *Hecla* fell short. The *Hecla* remained at her anchorage for the night. The other steamers were recalled about half-past four. The *Dragon* had one man killed and another wounded, and was struck three or four times.

The *Arrogant* was detached from the fleet for a considerable time, employed in reconnoitring the enemy's posts and shores about Hango Bay. While so employed, the *Hecla*, commanded by Captain Hall, whose services in the China war are so well known, joined her. Both ships planned a little expedition of their own, which turned out quite a gallant manoeuvre. The two ships proceeded up a narrow river, and, on anchoring on the evening of the 19th ult., the enemy, from behind a high sand-bank, in a thickly wooded place, fired upon one of the boats, which was at that time pulling at a distance of from six to eight hundred yards from the shore, round shot also striking the *Hecla*. Both ships beat to quarters, cast loose their guns, loaded with shot and shell, which they poured into the wood and against the sand barricade, whence the enemy was quickly dislodged. The vessels were not further molested that evening—the anchorage was shifted for the night, and all made snug, with watches posted. At two in the morning both ships again weighed, the *Hecla* leading, and both ships companies standing by their guns. After about three hours quietly feeling their way along the intricate navigation of the river, both ships came suddenly within range of an enemy's

battery. The *Hecla* opened fire, which was quickly answered from the fort; the promontory upon which stood the battery was crowded with soldiers, fine stalwart looking fellows, with long grey coats, and spiked steel helmets glittering in the sun. While the battery was firing upon the *Hecla*, the *Arrogant* let fly a whole broadside among the soldiery. A troop of horse artillery, when the smoke cleared off, was observed scampering away. A prolonged and heavy fire of musketry now ensued from the wood, and Minie balls fell thick on board both ships. The *Arrogant* now got aground within twenty yards of the battery. However, before attempting to haul the ship off, the enemy's guns were dismounted by a broadside, and the ship was then got off in safety. On passing the fort where the guns had been dismounted, a terrible sight was witnessed—gun-carriages blown to fragments, guns dismounted, helmets and knapsacks strewn about without owners.

The town of Eekness now opened, and there lay the ships, the objects of the expedition. The *Arrogant* was obliged to anchor here, as the water was shallow; the *Hecla* proceeded on, but another battery now opened fire upon her. The *Arrogant* swung broadside on, kept up a cannonade, while the *Hecla* passed, firing shells on the enemy as she did so, ran up alongside of a barge, took her in tow, and steamed away with her, to the horror of the inhabitants. When this little expeditionary force was returning, they were joined by the *Dauntless*, she having been sent on by the Commander-in-Chief to ascertain the cause and source of the firing, distinctly audible in Hango-roads. The *Hecla* had several shot through her funnel, steam-pipe, and hull, one passing right through the ship's side. The round-shot and shell went over the *Arrogant*. Both ships were studded with Minie balls. The *Arrogant* had one man shot through the heart, and a man wounded by a bullet in the navel, which ball went through his intestines, and passed out at his back. The *Hecla* had one man killed. Captain Hall, resolved not to leave without some trophy, landed with his marines and threw them out at skirmishers, while himself and a party of men hoisted one gun (an iron one) into his boat, and placed it on board the *Hecla*. The *Arrogant* and *Hecla*, with their prize in tow, joined the fleet on the 21st. The Commander-in-Chief hoisted the signal, "Well done *Arrogant* and *Hecla*." The flag-ship manned the rigging; her example was followed by several other ships—all of whom gave the heroes three hearty cheers. The *Dragon* was struck by no fewer than twenty shot, fifteen of which penetrated her hull, one of them entering her shell-room, but, fortunately, causing no material injury.

The *Dragon* had previously reconnoitred the port of Revel; perceiving two enemy's vessels at anchor under the batteries, she determined to capture them at the risk of being severely handled. Shot after shot was fired by the enemy, but each fell wide of its mark. In a short time the two vessels were taken, and were towed into Hango Bay.

The official despatches narrating the exploit at Eekness are published in the Friday's *Gazette*. Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, in transmitting Captain Yelverton's account of the affair to the Admiralty, says:—

Great praise is due to Captain Yelverton for his perseverance in threading up so narrow and intricate a navigation; and it will show the enemy that they are not safe even in their country towns. Captain Yelverton very properly abstained from damaging the town. He speaks very highly of the gallantry of Captain Hall, of the *Hecla* (who, I am sorry to say, is slightly wounded), as also of Lieutenant Haggard, first of the *Arrogant*, and Lieutenant Crew Read, the senior lieutenant of the *Hecla*, whose gallant officer has received a severe wound, which, I fear, has endangered the sight of his eye. All the officers and men behaved as British seamen and marines were wont to.

It is amusing to contrast the *Invalides Russes*' account of the affair at Eekness with the unvarnished narrative in Captain Yelverton's despatch, borne out as the despatch is by private letters and the reports transmitted to English journals. His work of deception is effected by the simple omission of the two rather important facts, that the *Hecla* cut out and carried off from under the guns of a strand battery the only merchant vessel at anchor in the harbour of Eekness, and that its captain also landed a detachment of marines, and carried off in triumph three of the guns from the battery which the broadside of the *Arrogant* had silenced. On the strength of these suppressions, and the fact that the English ships did not attack the peaceful and defenceless town of Eekness, which, though dignified with the imposing name of a "city" is less populous than many English fishing villages, the ingenious author of the Russian account claims the victory for his countrymen.

The Russian *Invalides* relates that the English fleet, twenty-six strong, battered the outworks of Hango Udde on the 28th, but were compelled to withdraw much damaged.

The Emperor of Russia, in consideration of the so-called brilliant exploit at Hango, has raised the Lieutenant-Colonel who commanded the batteries, to the rank of Major-General, and distributed various orders, together with a gratuity of one silver rouble to each man engaged.

The French fleet has left Kiel, and has probably joined Sir Charles Napier by this time. While at that anchorage the fleet was most enthusiastically received. From 15,000 to 20,000 tourists, from remote parts of Germany, visited the ships daily.

Various Swedish papers mention that it is the intention of the English to make Bomarsund, on the Aland Isles, a point d'appui in case of any bombardment of a Russian fortress being undertaken.

### THE SCANDINAVIAN POWERS.

It is evident that Sweden is verging more and more to the Western Alliance. On Monday it was reported

in Paris, though probably without any real foundation, that the Swedish squadron had received orders to combine its force with the allied fleets in the Baltic, and that the Swedish Minister at St. Petersburg had demanded his passports.

Two of the best and most widely circulated Swedish papers, in spirited language, advocate an active alliance with England and France. Two others—the *Svenska Tidning* and the *Wernlands Tidning*—advocate a strict neutrality. Not a single voice is heard in favour of Russia.

The same is the case in Denmark. The *Fædreland* inclines to the West; the *Dagbladet* recommends the Danes to observe neutrality as long as possible, but then to side with the Western Powers; the *Bertingske Tidende* is still more neutral, but in the last extremity it goes with the West; and even the *Kjöbenhavnspost*, a Russian paper, has of late been silent as to foreign politics, and limits its exertions to repeated attacks upon the fundamental law of the kingdom, and upon the partisans of order and legality.

The rage and panic of the Russian and Court party in Denmark have brought about a serious political crisis. Government has prohibited a public meeting at Ringsted, to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the constitution, at which an address to the King, praying the dismissal of Ministers, was to have been proposed. The Government has gone the length of indicting all the opposition papers.

### THE GERMAN POWERS.

By the telegraph it is again announced that the much-talked-of message to the Czar, which at first was a summons, then a demand, and is now a request, has actually left Vienna. There are solid reasons to believe that this message is not at all calculated to disturb the equanimity of the Czar, or hinder his projected operations.

It is said that Baron Meyendorff, the able Minister of Russia at Vienna, has fallen into complete disgrace, and that the last despatches from St. Petersburg have been addressed to M. Fonton, a member of the Legation. Perhaps the report is accounted for by the announcement, that the Baron is gone on a diplomatic mission to Berlin.

There are other reports of disagreement between the two despotic courts—one from Vienna to the effect, that all personal relations have been interrupted, and another from St. Petersburg, that the exasperation against Austria increases. The Emperor is reported to have said, "The Austrian Government makes public opinion an excuse for its policy, but when I entered Hungary, in 1849, I did not trouble myself about public opinion." The excitement of his Majesty is so great, that few persons can venture to address him; indeed, it is feared that his religious fanaticism will take a bad end.

The Austrian armaments in Galicia and Transylvania continue. The troops are to be in their positions on the Gallician frontier by the 19th of June. Provision has been made in Galicia for 120,000 troops and 40,000 horses. The headquarters of the Archduke Albrecht are now at Hermannstadt. Letters from Belgrade and Widdin announce (says the *Moniteur*) that Austrian troops are every day descending the Danube in the direction of Orsova, on the frontier of Wallachia. By a decree, dated May 31, the export and transport of arms and munitions of war to Russia is prohibited, and Austrian merchants going to sea are only to be allowed to take such arms as are required by the crew.

A story is current at Berlin, that Lord Clarendon has requested the ambassador, Lord Bloomfield, no longer to give himself the trouble of reporting the variations in the aspect of the Prussian Court as regards the Oriental conflict.

It appears that the signature of the last Vienna protocol took the Russian party at Berlin by surprise. The consultations on the subject between the King and Baron Manteuffel had been kept so secret, that no one knew of them, or their result, until orders had been sent by telegraph to Count Arnim to sign the protocol.

A very considerable amount of petty negotiation is going on among the minor states of Germany. Not only have there been meetings at Bamberg, but also at Weimar. Of course it is impossible to say what decision will be come to.

Baron Brunnow, or Baron Meyendorff, is likely to succeed Baron Budberg at Berlin.

The marching of troops towards the eastern frontier, (says a Berlin letter,) which seemed a few days ago to be suspended, is now again in full activity.

According to the *Moniteur*, orders have been transmitted from the Porte to the Turkish authorities in Albania to receive the troops which Austria is about to send thither. It is understood that a special treaty, concluded between Austria and the Porte, with the assent of France and England, authorises the expedition. A despatch from Vienna, dated June 2, says:—"Austria will occupy forthwith Albania, Montenegro, and, in case of rebellion, also Servia."

### DEFENSIVE MEASURES OF THE Czar.

The divisions of the Russian army which were intended to advance to the Danube are concentrated and detained on the frontier of Galicia and the Bukovina. It is confidently stated by the German papers, which are supposed to be best informed on the subject, that detachments of the 4th Russian Infantry Division, whose staff is at Radom, and of the 5th Infantry Division, whose staff is at Lublin, have been despatched to the frontier of Galicia. The 6th Infantry Division is posted on the line of the Sereth, opposite the Bukovina. All these divisions belong to General Panutina's corps d'armée (the second corps), and they are further augmented by one division of the first corps and by the third division of the Grenadiers, amounting, in all, to 85,000 or 90,000 men. A camp of 15,000 men has been formed as an advanced guard, within sixteen miles of the Austrian frontier at Orsova. It is reported that these demonstrations against Austria



have been accompanied by clandestine appeals to the disaffected part of the population of Hungary. It has even been suggested that a Russian Grand Duke could alone restore to the Crown of Hungary its ancient independence.

Letters from Riga, in the official journal of Bremen, state that the vast commercial quarter of that town had been razed to the ground, in order to permit the construction of defensive works; and that upon those defences the whole labouring population had been forced to work.

The Neva was free of ice on the 2nd May, and had risen so high that an inundation was feared. The report that the Russians are fortifying its banks is current. "Yesterday morning," says the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Vienna *Presse*, writing on the 21st ult., "there appeared an order of the Minister of Police, prescribing what the inhabitants of St. Petersburg are to do in the event of siege, or rather, a blockade of that city. If Cronstadt should fall into the power of the allied fleets, women, children, and old men, are immediately to leave the capital. The troops are to be removed from the houses, the streets are to be unpaved, and the bells of the holy churches and the images of the saints are to be removed to Moscow. Notwithstanding all these precautions, the order expresses the assurance that the enemy's fleet will perish on the rocks, and under the cannon of Cronstadt. All measures necessitated by a long and energetic war are being taken here. Both sides of the mouth of the Neva are being protected with strong defensive works."

The blockade of the Baltic ports has caused a great falling off in the customs. In 1853 the receipts from January till the end of May were 15,000,000 silver roubles, but in the first quarter of the present year they have only amounted to one-fourth of that sum.

It is evident that the Czar begins to be apprehensive of his Western provinces and Poland, though the number of troops concentrated there is greatly exaggerated. By order of the Czar, the account-book and funds of the custom-house at Polanger, a little town on the Baltic, higher up than Memel, have been transferred to the town of Erttingen, about two German miles inland. An army corps—60,000 strong, under the command of General Von Sievern—stretches from Polanger to beyond Mitau, "in order," as it is stated by a Prussian journal, "to prevent any serious advance of the enemy into the interior of the country."

#### RUMOURED PLAN OF THE CAMPAIGN.

The *Times* of Thursday somewhat startled the public by giving an outline of the probable campaign of the allied army in Turkey. The gist of it was to concentrate the French troops near the Balkan and the English at Varna, leaving the Danube undefended, and the Russians to waste their strength and decimate their troops before the fortresses and among the pestilential marshes of that river. The allies will act upon the defensive as long as possible, watching the favourable moment to advance, and strike a decisive blow.

The *Constitutionnel* gives a sketch of the projected campaign of the allied armies in Turkey in Europe, widely differing from the exceedingly prudent programme put forth by the *Times* as the probable result of the council of war held at Varna. This Government journal says:—

We are informed that it has been determined to occupy Varna by two divisions, whose arrival alone will suffice to inspire the Russian left wing in the Dobrudzha with a wholesome respect. The army of occupation at Varna will not be, as was at first said, exclusively composed of English troops. Prince Napoleon, who, as we learn from our correspondence, went to Gallipoli to fetch his division, will find on his arrival at Constantinople an order to embark with his troops for Varna. At the same time Marshal St. Arnaud, with the main body of his army, will march to Adrianople, and from thence to Widdin, where he will form the left wing of the forces of the Three Powers. The English troops will successively assemble in the Dobrudzha, to form the right wing. Supported by these powerful auxiliaries, Omar Pasha will find himself free to act, and the result of the campaign cannot be doubted.

Considering the little liberty enjoyed by the French journals, and the stern injunctions they receive not to circulate unwarranted news relating to the war, it is unlikely that the *Constitutionnel* should have ventured to publish this plan of the campaign without authority.

After the conference at Varna, the French and English generals returned to Shumla with Omar Pasha, and on the 24th reviewed the Turkish army. Marshal St. Arnaud made a flattering speech, to the effect that he was happy to serve with such troops against the Russians.

On the 21st of May Lord Raglan and Marshal St. Arnaud had returned to Constantinople, and it was understood that marching orders were forthwith issued both to the regiments at Scutari and Gallipoli. A more recent despatch from Constantinople intimates that 25,000 French had actually marched by way of Adrianople to Shumla, and that 15,000 English had been sent by sea to Varna. The overland march, either from Gallipoli or Constantinople to Shumla, at the rate of 14 miles *per diem*, with a rest every four days, might be accomplished with ease in twenty-four days; the troops forwarded by sea to Varna may be in the field much earlier. In little more than a month, therefore, from the date of the investment of Silistria—that is, nearly three weeks before the time when the fortress, unless relieved, might surrender—Omar Pasha would in all likelihood have 25,000 of the *élite* of the French army on his left, and 15,000 of the *élite* of the English army on his right, both in immediate and close conjunction, and ready to co-operate with him. In other words, there would be in the field an army of the allies at least 120,000 strong, ready to advance to the relief of Silistria.

#### THE SIEGE OF SILISTRIA, AND CONFLICTS ON THE DANUBE.

This powerful fortress still holds out against the

Russians. A sudden rise of the Danube has greatly embarrassed the operations of the besiegers, for the three islands opposite the fortress, on which the Russians had erected batteries to bombard the waterside of the place, have been completely overflowed, and the troops obliged to withdraw precipitately to the left bank; the mines were at the same time filled with water, and the pontoons prepared for the construction of a bridge at Kalarasch damaged by the flood. It appears to be subsequently to this disaster, which has suspended for a considerable time General Schilder's scientific operations against the fortress, that Prince Paskiewitch resolved upon another attempt to take the place by storm. This attack was made on the 29th of May by 30,000 men, but was again repulsed with heavy loss. According to a telegraphic despatch from Bucharest of the 31st of May, the Russians had withdrawn out of gunshot range of the walls, and it was thought that some weeks would now elapse before Silistria could be reduced.

Silistria is represented by military men, who have recently inspected it, as the strongest of the Turkish fortresses, and garrisoned by 18,000 soldiers, of whom 12,000 at least are regulars, the rest irregular cavalry and Arnauts, who are "dead shots from behind a stone wall." The fortress has been estimated to be capable of holding out against the force that has sat down before it for at least seven weeks. This term of probable resistance may be greatly extended by the reported rise of the Danube.

It is reported that one of the correspondents of the *Times*, and two English officers, are shut up in Silistria, but the report is doubtful, as the fortress has not been closely invested. According to report, an army of 60,000 Russians is interposed between the stronghold and Shumla. Mussa Pasha has exhibited the utmost gallantry, energy, and skill. Though the Russian artillery, directed by Marshal Paskiewitch and General Schilder, had battered down some of the advanced works, they had been rapidly repaired, and new works had been thrown up behind them. Four times the Russian troops, when brought to the assault, were repulsed with loss. In spite of Russian reports to the contrary, the word "capitulation" has not once been mentioned. General Schilder was at the siege of the fortress in 1829. His favourite mode of attack is by mining.

The information from the line of the Danube and Little Wallachia, is to the effect, that there have been incessant engagements, in which the Turks have been uniformly victorious. Turtukai, Sistow, and Nicopolis, still remain in their possession. On the 13th and following days there was an obstinate action near Oltenitza, after which, it is reported, 289 waggons were seen departing with the Russian wounded. The Russians crossed the Danube at Turna on the 26th. Sali Pasha repulsed them with the garrison of Nicopolis. Similar attempts on the part of the Russians, made at Rutschuk and Turtukai, also failed. Five hundred Russians are reported killed in an affair at Brancovan. They burned the bridge at Slatina. According to the correspondent of the *Medical Journal* in the Turkish camp,—"The Russians generally leave their dead behind them, and between the Trajan's Wall and the line of Turtukai, Silistria, Rassoava, we have buried no fewer than 5,000 of our enemies."

Despatches from Widdin, of the 27th ult., state that Turkish troops in considerable numbers are arriving there from Lesser Wallachia, by Kalafat. The Turks, in advancing from Kalafat to occupy the country abandoned by the Russians, fell in with the rearguard of the latter near Radovan, a village situated on this side of the Schyl. The Russians, vigorously attacked, left 250 dead upon the plain. On the part of the Turks the loss was confined to three dead and two wounded. In order to prevent pursuit by the Turks, the Russians, after having passed the river, destroyed the bridges in all haste. The next day, when the Imperial troops began to reconstruct them, the peasants assisted them with alacrity, and furnished them with the materials necessary, and when the Ottoman General came to take possession of Krajova, abandoned on the preceding evening by the enemy, the inhabitants of all classes went out in a body to meet him, and welcome him as a liberator. General Danenburg, in disgrace since the affair of Oltenitza, is appointed to the command of a corps destined to cover the positions which the Russians retain on the right bank of the Otto.

#### THE BLACK SEA—FALL OF RUSSIAN PORTS.

Omar Pasha writes on the 26th ult. from Shumla, after receipt of a communication from Admiral Dundas, dated Baltshik, May 25:—"Redout-Kalé and Poti have been occupied by detachments from allied squadrons: arms and munitions have been landed on the Circassian coast. French and English officers have gone into the country, and opened communications with Schamyl. The Circassians are assembling in all directions." It is also reported that Georgia has declared its independence (?).

According to intelligence from Trebizond, dated May 18, the Abasids have taken possession of Sukum-Kalé, and hoisted the Turkish flag. The Russians, in number about 5,000 or 6,000, are marching towards Redout-Kalé, whence it is supposed they will try to get to Tiflis. They have evacuated and burned Anapa.

The regiments organizing in the Caucasus will join the Turkish Danubian army. It is said that Schamyl has gained an important victory over the Russians in the Caucasus.

#### CAPITULATION OF THE KING OF GREECE.

The *Moniteur* announces that the French division, destined to occupy the Piræus, arrived at that port on the 25th ult., where it landed, after taking possession of the Greek vessels of war.

On the 26th, King Otho accepted all the proposals of France and England, proclaimed a strict neutrality in the affairs of Turkey, and changed his Ministry.

His Hellenic Majesty received the two envoys in the Throne-room, and spoke to them in the following terms:—

I declare that I will faithfully observe a strict neutrality towards Turkey; that I will without delay take all the necessary measures to effect it; and that for this object I will call to my counsel new Ministers, who, by their character and intelligence, are the best calculated to carry this engagement of mine into execution.

Mr. Wyse, as the senior Minister, replied:—

Sire,—We shall hasten to report to our Government the words which your Majesty has just addressed to us, and we doubt not that, by giving your support to the new counsellors whom your Majesty has deigned to call to your aid, we shall no longer have to transmit to our Courts any information but what will be satisfactory as regards Greece.

Private accounts state that the King manifested considerable obstinacy before complying with the requests laid before him. Before the troops actually arrived he threatened to withdraw to Zamia, the Prussian Minister promising to follow him thither. The arrival of the force and its immediate occupation alone decided him. It is said that the Queen of Greece was in a state of frenzy at this occupation, and had threatened to ride to the frontier and place herself at the head of the insurgents. Her Majesty's baggage had been ordered to be prepared, and everything portended her speedy departure. At length she yielded to the prayers, entreaties, and even, it is said, to the tears of the King, who conjured her not to take so reckless a step; and in his supplications he was powerfully aided by the ladies in waiting and the servants of the palace.

A new cabinet, composed of M. Mavrocordato, as President of the Council, and of General Kallergi, M. Palamidis, M. Argyropoulos, M. Calligas, and M. Isika, has been formed. M. Canaris, whose name also figured in the Ministerial list, declined accepting the functions which were offered to him. M. Mavrocordato is impatiently expected. In consequence of these arrangements, the new cabinet will, no doubt, recall the leaders of the insurgents, change the members of the household of King Otho, dismiss the functionaries who have been implicated, and demand of the French to abandon the idea of occupying with troops Athens and Syra. In the meantime 6,000 French and English will remain at the Piræus, and the mass of the division of General Forey will join the army of the East at Gallipoli. Athens was tranquil on the 28th, and the population "pronounced" against Russia.

The insurrection, which is not in a promising condition, will thus be further discouraged. According to the latest detailed accounts, the most satisfactory results had followed the taking of Peta; and Mr. Saunders, the British Consul, had been instrumental in mediating between several villages in Epirus desirous of submitting and Fuad Effendi. It seems quite clear that the Greek invaders compelled these poor people to join the insurrection; in fact, they had no choice. The women and children had taken refuge from the contending parties in the midst of the marshes of the Luro; and Mr. Saunders very considerably sought them out in their retreat, and assured them that they might safely return to their homes. They were in a wretched condition, and nothing could exceed their joy and gratitude for this unlooked-for kindness. The villages of Suli had also submitted; taking Mr. Longworth, the British Consul, as their mediator. There only remained the villages of Djumerka and Radovizi under the influence of Greek bands, and measures had been concerted to relieve these districts from their presence, and to operate upon Thessaly at the same time. In this latter country the civil war had been carried to extremes on both sides, recalling the atrocities committed in the war of independence; but by the overwhelming numbers and systematic action of the Ottomans, it is believed the insurrection will soon be totally extinguished.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Russian ship of war *Aurora*, 44 guns, arrived at Callao on the 16th of April, from Rio.

An order for raising each infantry regiment of the line to 1,400 effective men has been issued from the Horse Guards.

It is currently stated that King Frederick William has openly declared, "Whilst he reigns at Berlin not a Prussian gun shall be fired against Russia."

At the request of Marshal St. Arnaud, the Turkish Government has granted a piece of land at Gallipoli for a Roman Catholic cemetery. It has been consecrated by the Abbe Bellet.

The Military Lunatic Asylum at Great Yarmouth is to be converted into a hospital for sailors wounded in the Baltic. Several forts are to be erected to protect the district round King's Lynn.

The troops serving in Ireland are to exchange the Minié rifles for percussion muskets forthwith. The rifles are to be put into the hands of those destined for active service.

A Russian merchant in St. Petersburg failed recently, and closed his shop. The event created a great sensation; and the Government seized the unhappy man and posted him off to Siberia, for the crime of failing at such a moment, and thus showing that Russian merchants are in difficulties.—*La Patrie*.

An electrical telegraphic apparatus, to be employed on the field of battle, is now nearly completed at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, and will be shortly despatched to the seat of war. Each portion is fitted in a light four-wheeled waggon, which holds sufficient wire for a length of twelve miles.

It is said that the commanders of the army have expressed their determination to have no reporters in the camp. The French have in a manner ousted the representatives of their own press; it is thought that the English generals admire the practice, and think it worthy of imitation.

The *Wallachian Moniteur* contains a decree by Marshal Paskiewitch, creating a special inconver-



able paper money (Russian Treasury Bonds) for the Principalities, with which all the expenses of the army will be paid. After the termination of the war, the bonds may be exchanged for Russian paper roubles.

The *Moscow* announces the organisation of camps in the North and South. The Emperor will be Commander-in-Chief of the camp in the North. Baraguay d'Hilliers, Guesvillars, and Carlelet will command three corps d'armée. General Hautpoul will be Commander-in-Chief of the camp in the South.

During a recent cruise in the Baltic, the *Cumberland* ran over a Swedish brig in a fog and sunk her; but fortunately the hands, seven in number, were saved. The crew of the *Cumberland* spontaneously gathered 240 and divided it among the Swedish sailors. They were shipped off in a steamer to a Swedish port.

The militia regiments that are or will be embodied include the Essex rifles, now at the Tower; the Hampshire militia, about to occupy Portsmouth; the Staffordshire militia to garrison Dover; and the royal Berkshire to go to Weodon, and thence to Windsor. Several other regiments have signified their readiness to serve.

The Italian Government are, it is said, very uneasy on account of reported movements of political refugees on the coast of Italy, and on some of the Mediterranean islands. In compliance with representations made by Rome and Tuscany, the French Government has expelled several Italian refugees from Corsica. An exception to the general measure has been made in favour of Guerazzi, the ex-dictator of Florence, who resides in Bastia. Several domiciliary visits have been made in the Legations.

Lieutenant Maonish, of the 93rd Highlanders, has been accidentally drowned near Scutari. He and a brother officer, Lieutenant Grove, were returning to camp at night; and they had to cross a gully which was perfectly dry a few hours before, but had been swollen by a recent thunderstorm. They stepped into the torrent inadvertently; Lieutenant Maonish was swept into the sea; Mr. Grove only escaped by clinging to a tree till aid came.

Malta has recently looked nearly as much like an island belonging to the French as to the English. A large body of French troops have been quartered there—four times as many as the British garrison. For some days a French regimental band daily played "God save the Queen," and sometimes "Rule Britannia." In the Palace square of Valletta; and French and British officers marched about arm-in-arm.

The *Paris Encrier* gives an instance of Russian deception. The officers and crew of the *Tiger* landed in their own boats after having burnt their ensign. The Russians never boarded the vessel, and consequently could not gain possession of the English flag. The Russian general sent as a trophy to Marshal Paskievitch the flag of an English merchant vessel which had been detained in the port before the bombardment and which he represented as being that of the English frigate the *Tiger*.

The Russian prisoners on board the *Cressida*, off the Tower, continue to enter the British service. On Friday, several were shipped on board the *Bombay* to Cardiff, and from that port to Virginia, at better wages than they have ever before taken. One capable of acting as ship's carpenter signed articles for 25 a month, whereas, while in the Russian service he received the miserable pittance of three roubles monthly, in English, 13s. 6d. Their only anxiety appears to be to keep clear of their former masters.

It is rumoured at Constantinople that General Osten Sacken was menaced with disgrace, and that he would in all probability be degraded to the lowest rank, and sent to Siberia as a private soldier, notwithstanding the Grand Cross of St. Andrew given him for the "victory" he gained at Odessa. The letter says that he stands charged with not having applied to its proper use a large sum of money sent some time since by the Emperor of Russia for the repairs of the defences of that city. An inquiry was instituted after the bombardment, and the result has been highly unfavourable to the integrity of the parties to whose hands the funds were entrusted.

A story is told of Mr. Evans, the late Master of the *Ann M. Allister*. It appears that the Russian Government insisted that a neutral crew should be found to take home the *Ann M. Allister*; and Mr. Evans and his crew were sent off by land. The other day he arrived at Berlin; there, disgusted at some official treatment, he spat upon the double-headed eagle, and crumpled up his Russian passport. Fired by the insult, the Prussian guard levelled his bayonet. Stepping back a pace—"Thrust away my hearties," cried the British tar; "but, by jingo, the first man that lays hands on me I'll floor as flat as this one rouble; which the Russians at Warsaw gave me to provide myself with on the road, and which I'll present to the British Museum as a curiosity." Lord Bloomfield had to be invoked to set matters straight.

A correspondent of the *Edinb. Courier* states that a tradesman belonging to that town has, in compliance with a summons from the Board of Ordnance, proceeded to Woolwich for the purpose of submitting to the military authorities there the principles of a destructive engine designed and constructed by him. The instrument is denominated a "Longitudinal Projectile;" it is about four feet in length, may be fired from a cannon, and will "hit to a hair" any object at a distance of five miles; on being shot from the cannon it expands like an umbrella, explodes the moment it alights, and causes instant annihilation to every material for many yards around. It will, it is said, cause the immediate destruction of the largest ship in the world; and one or two charges would in a few seconds extirpate the finest army that ever marched to music!

## Postscript.

### THE WAR.

OPERATIONS ON THE DANUBE.  
The telegraphic despatches from the Danube are contradictory. The following is their substance:—Towards the end of May, 5,000 Turkish horse took the Russians by surprise at Turau. Only 107 of the latter escaped to the left bank of the Aluta. General of Division Baumgarten has been missing ever since the affair.

In the attack on Silistria on the 29th, Lieut-General Sylvan was killed, and Count Orloff shot in the eye. On the 30th, at four in the morning, the Turks made a sally, and a fearful massacre took place in the Russian entrenchments. Many of the besiegers' guns were spiked. It is calculated that the Russians have lost 8,000 men on the Danube since the 20th of May. We learn from Russian sources that on the 29th ult. 30,000 Russians made a fresh and vigorous attack on Silistria, but were repulsed with the loss of 3,000 men. The eldest son of Count Orloff was among the slain.

Intelligence received from Belgrade of the 5th, at noon, states, that the Pasha of Widdin writes that on the 31st of May an affair took place at Slatina, where the Russians, with 2,000 men and four guns, held a position in front of the bridge across the Aluta. When the Turks advanced to observe their position the Russians attacked them, but the Turks taking the offensive, killed about 600 of the enemy, and took the four guns, besides some prisoners.

The following order of the day has been addressed by Admiral Hamelin to the squadron in the Black Sea. It is dated the 20th ult.:

The Vice-Admiral commanding-in-chief testifies his satisfaction to the squadron at the manner in which it fulfilled its duties during the last cruise, which has not been without some lustre for our arms. The imperial port of Odessa reduced to ashes, with all that it contained; the enemy challenged in Sebastopol, and not daring to come out; Russian merchant vessels captured at sea or in open roadsteads; the fifteen forts which Russia had held for the last half-century on the coast of Circassia abandoned by her in expectation of our attacks; and, lastly, the Russian flag driven from that Black Sea where it pretended to be master; such are the first results obtained by our ships of the line, or by the steamers acting under their arms. Another fact, not less remarkable, has been proved, which is, that the nineteen sail of the line of the two combined squadrons have sailed in company for more than a month with perfect success; and that, in the midst of thick and almost continual fog, they have cruised for twenty days off Sebastopol, without any accident or without being separated, no constant has been the attention of each to watch the movements of the admirals and the signals which were made to obtain the above result. The Vice-Admiral commanding-in-chief has hastened to point out to the government of the Emperor the fresh claims which the squadron has thus acquired to the confidence of the country. The present order of the day shall be read to the crews assembled for the purpose, and posted up on the mainmast.

By order, C. ROBERT WILLIAMS, Chief d'Etat Major of the Black Sea Squadron.

THE WAR MINISTER.  
It is now understood that the Duke of Newcastle, and not Lord Palmerston, is to be War Minister. The Secretaryship of the Colonies will thus soon be vacant. It is rumoured that if Sir William Molesworth does not step into this vacancy, he will be offered a seat in the House of Lords. Should a peerage fall to the lot of the only Radical member of the Cabinet, the electors of Southwark will of course be called upon to select a new representative.—*Daily News*.

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Yesterday will be memorable in our military annals as the day on which the clothing-colonel system received its death-blow. It appears from a circular issued by Mr. Sidney Herbert, that colonels' clothing regiments are to receive a fixed annual payment in lieu of varying profits derived from the off-reckonings.

It is said that Marshal St. Arnaud complains that the *entourage* and intimate friends of the Prince Napoleon, consisting, as they do, of the most violent of the refugees, may seriously embarrass the commanders of the armies, and disturb the plan of the campaign. These complaints were on Saturday last brought by Marshal Vaillant before the Council of Ministers held at the Palace of St. Cloud, when the Emperor authorised Marshal Vaillant to say that if Prince Napoleon's presence was a real source of embarrassment, he would be recalled.

Letters state that since the visit of Marshal de St. Arnaud to Schumla, he has expressed great admiration of Omar Pasha and confidence in his talents and energy as a general, but as respects the Ottoman army, he found it in a most deplorable condition, and wanting all the necessaries for a campaign.

General Wysocki has addressed a letter to his Polish fellow-countrymen from Constantinople, stating that the reported formation of a Polish legion is premature; the Allied Powers considering it inappropriate to raise that question. "Our turn will arrive, but for the present there are only distant hopes; and I consider it a duty to prevent my fellow-countrymen from being in too great a hurry to arrive in Turkey."

Letters from Trebizond state that on the 17th ult. an aide-de-camp of Selim Pasha, commanding at

Tchuruk-Su, arrived there with news that the Russians had abandoned Ouzguti and were marching on Notais. The Georgians of the former place lost no time in informing Selim Pasha, and the town was at once occupied by Ottoman troops. Selim Pasha appointed one of the princes of the country as governor.

### KOSSUTH AT SHEFFIELD.

The papers of this morning report at full the speech of M. Kossuth on Monday evening, in the Sheffield Music-hall. Previous to his rising, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

That England will place herself in an unwise and dangerous position by seeking for this war an alliance with Austria, which, with vile ingratitude, has participated in the spoliation of Poland—once her deliverer; and who, by these very Polish possessions, is bound over to resist the re-establishment of Polish nationality; who now signs in Hungary, not by law at right, but by the aid of a Russian invasion as unjustifiable as that against which we are now taking up arms. As, therefore, an alliance with Austria in the present war, would be a sacrifice of the just aims, it were wiser for England, France, and Turkey to look for allies to those nationalities which have been despoiled of their right by combinations of despotism than to any Government which shared in the crime of this combination, and would but be secured in the enjoyment of its spoils by alliance with these Powers.

Of an oration occupying nearly four columns of the *Times*, we cannot give even an abstract. The text of the speech was the immense blunder committed by England and France in permitting the destruction of Poland and Hungary, the natural bulwarks a cinct Russia. It was more than a blunder—for England actually prevented Turkey from defending her own territory, in 1849, by which she might have aided Hungarian independence. For this fault, England had now to atone—perhaps, with "blood in streams, and money by millions." By the Austrian alliance, we have aggravated our fault, and rendered unavailing our sacrifices. Russia was only accessible through Poland, and Austria was instinctively faithless. Besides the subject-races would not be acquiescent through the struggle; the Czar would find his interest in aiding them.

He will address himself to some nationality, and offer his aid and claim their concurrence for punishing Austria. A strange concurrence, you will say; strange, indeed! I tremble at the very idea of its possibility; but not a bit stranger than England claiming the credit of fighting for the freedom of Europe, and yet allying herself to despotic Austria. (Great cheering.) Despotism here, and despotism there. Will you think it so strange that, if driven by England's impolicy to extremes, there will be no choice left but to draw a comparison between Russian and Austrian despotism? Be forewarned, people of England! be forewarned! Oh! you cannot fathom all the depth of the terrible feeling to see oneself betrayed by those who ought to have helped. If, by patching up despotic Austria, England shows that she is not fighting for the independence of Europe, but for securing the rule of despotism in one of its worst phases over the continent, or, at the utmost, for transferring St. Petersburg to Vienna—if it is England which wears the triple fruit of deliverance from the lips of the oppressed—if it is England which prevents Turkey from recurring to its true and natural alliances—if thus, it is England which drives the oppressed nationalities to despair—England will have no right for blaming them should some of them accept even the concurrence of the Czar for severing themselves from Austria. (Cheers.) There is the real danger, gentlemen! It would be madness to believe that the oppressed nations will, in passive submission, let pass the prevalent opportunity of such a European complication, without trying to break their chains. So, if you must, they will try it. It rests with England to decide the direction. Save despotic Austria you ought not—you cannot; there is no help for this. (Laughter.) But in one case the fall of that execrated dynasty would profit freedom. In another case it may profit Russia. There is yet another danger which England cannot escape if she takes Austria for ally, and that is the insincerity of Austria. But of this I will not speak now. I may do so perhaps "yet," in another place. Gentlemen, I have done; I have not needed a lamentation over my own country's sufferings. I have spoken of England's honour, of England's interests. As to myself, I certainly am full of confidence, happens what may, in the mortal liberty shall rise from its grave. (Loud cheers.) Remember, the Eastern once rose, harassed, but not dead. (Hear, hear.) So I will conclude by repeating, in the very words, what Sheffield told me in one of its addresses in 1850:—"There is a future left to every nation that has the moral greatness to love national virtue in corrupt times." (Prolonged and enthusiastic cheering.)

The great orchestra for the performers at the Crystal Palace on Saturday is fast rising in the central transept. It will form a splendid amphitheatre, 144 feet wide, 70 feet deep, and ascending to a height of 40 feet at the back. The public may easily form an idea of its capacity when they are told that it is double the size of the great orchestra at Exeter-hall, and that it will reckon its performers not by dozens, but by platoons. One hundred violins, thirty violas, as many violoncellos and double basses, and four times the number of wind-instruments will exercise the lungs or abate the most eminent professional performers, and nearly all the distinguished vocalists in London, and the independent choirs of 1,150 voices will be added to the vocal talent of the metropolitan districts. The programme will include "God Save the Queen," the "Old Hundred," "Hail, and the "Hallelujah Chorus."

COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE, 24th June, Wednesday, 6 June, 1854.  
The trade gold is at 100 on Monday's rates.  
Arrivals and sales:—Wheat, English, 520 qrs.; Foreign, 5,600 qrs.; Barley, English, 100 qrs.; Foreign, 3,520 qrs.; Oats, Foreign, 2,000 qrs.; Flour, English, 1,075 cwt.; Foreign, 700 cwt.



## THE NEWSPAPER STAMP RETURNS.

The return of penny stamps for newspapers in the United Kingdom for the years 1851-2-3, has been followed by a return showing the number of stamps issued to the various journals published in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin for the first quarter of the present year. We have before shown that, according to these returns, the circulation of the *Nonconformist* has progressively increased since its establishment in 1841—that while in 1842 the number of stamps supplied to us was 110,850, in 1853, it had risen to 167,000—and that our circulation in the last-named year showed an increase of 17,825 over that of 1852. The new return more than confirms these favourable conclusions, and enables us to draw up the following list of metropolitan newspapers having a smaller circulation than our own:—

Names.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1st Qr. 1853.	1st Qr. 1854.
NONCONFORMIST	149,700	149,175	167,000	39,500	41,000
Spectator	150,000	149,000	145,500	38,500	40,000
British Banner	196,900	193,375	202,300	39,750	36,500
Wesleyan Times	263,215	247,310	184,000	50,000	31,000
Watchman	214,000	190,000	175,000	40,000	30,000
Leader	115,000	98,000	120,700	25,500	23,000
John Bull	110,000	110,000	93,000	20,500	25,000
Britannia	123,000	124,250	103,200	27,750	24,500
Atlas	80,350	73,852	76,500	19,500	23,750
Patriot	137,000	137,700	131,500	33,000	30,000
Weekly News	98,000	107,500	66,000	15,000	18,000
Christian Times	85,500	69,500	55,575	15,500	14,000
Inquirer	50,000	44,000	40,000	12,000	14,000

\* Twice a week.

It appears from this statement, that our circulation during the past quarter surpassed that of twelve other London journals, and places us at the head of the Dissenting press. While our issue was 4,500 more than the highest of our Nonconformist contemporaries, it was nearly three times that of the lowest. We hope we may be allowed to regard this distinction as an incentive to continue in the courses we have heretofore pursued, and an indication that steadfast adherence to radical principles and independence of sects and parties, is a sure passport to public confidence.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"An Old Noncon." should have sent his letter before. It is now somewhat out of date, and our columns are otherwise occupied.

"Justitia." We have acted upon the advice of his letter in the most efficient manner that occurred to us.

"A Subscriber." Routledge and Co., or of any bookseller.

## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1854.

## SUMMARY.

THE Earl of Aberdeen's promise, in the House of Lords on Thursday, that "nothing will be left undone by the Government to arrive at that conclusion which will best be produced by the vigorous conduct of the war," seems in process of realization. Impatience and suspicion, the almost inevitable consequence of ignorance and irresponsibility, and incidental to most great enterprises at their outset, are giving way under the influence of the news wafted across the Baltic and Central Europe. The allied forces have begun the campaign in earnest. The first official despatches from the North contain details of an operation described by Sir Charles Napier as "an exploit worthy of British arms in the best times of our naval history." The actual results of the daring attack on Eckness, and the preliminary bombardment of Hango, are trivial enough, but they confirm previous impressions of the longer range and more efficient working of the English guns—vital considerations in naval warfare. One account from the scene of action says:—"We were out of their range, while we could just nicely hit them, for the fact was that all their shot fell short of us, while not one of ours but struck some part of the fort we were firing at." If this be the result of small cannon on board steamers, it is manifest that the heavy guns of line of battle ships are calculated to do greater execution. If Cronstadt and Sebastopol are reduced, it will be rather by scientific calculation, and "the long range," than by personal qualities or naval gallantry. We are glad to find that the town of Eckness was, like Odessa, left uninjured. Such humanity is not without result, as is seen in the kind treatment of the captured seamen of the *Tiger* by the Russian authorities, though they refuse to exchange prisoners.

From the East intelligence is even more interesting, or at least important, than from the Baltic. While we are on the *gru-rice* for some great exploit, immense if not, showy results are being achieved. Vice-Admiral Hamelin's letter shows that the combined squadron in the *Euxine* is per-

forming its duty most effectually. The Russians are completely blockaded in Sebastopol, and the fruits of twenty-five campaigns in Circassia and Georgia had perished without a blow being struck. They have, according to the official accounts, "abandoned the sixteen forts, reared only after so much toil and so many battles on the two hundred leagues of the coast, which extends from Anapa, near the sea of Azof, nearly to the port of Batoum"—"all the Russian possessions on the Circassian coast have been destroyed or abandoned," so that the flank of the Russian army in Asia is exposed, her victorious career in Armenia cut short, and Turkey saved from further defeat in Anatolia. In this there is no record of brilliant feats of arms, or dreadful carnage, but the results are substantial, and most fatal to the Muscovite schemes of Asiatic conquest. Before long we may, perhaps hear that the Russian possessions in Georgia are endangered.

On the Danube, Russia has still a short respite till she retires before the superior forces of her combined foes. The siege of Silistria is pressed forward with the utmost energy and the most reckless disregard of life, as though the Czar were determined, at any cost, to strike one blow ere he confessed his inability to cope with the dangers that accumulate on every hand. But, as yet, he has failed. Some 8,000 men have, it is said, been already immolated before this fortress; and successive repulses, combined with the rising of the Danube, have obliged the besieging party to recommence their preparations. It is remarkable that, up to the present time, the formidable Muscovite Power has gained no advantage—unless the passage of the Danube, and the occupation of the Dobrudscha, be so regarded. On the other hand, her troops are repeatedly defeated in small engagements on both sides of the great river, and her hospitals crowded with the victims of war as well as fever. The moral effect of these petty conflicts cannot but be considerable; and should Omar Pasha advance to the relief of Silistria, the Russians would fight a battle beneath its walls, and with the broad Danube in their rear, at a serious disadvantage.

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King Otho has succumbed to the necessities of his position. His patron, the Czar, and his relative of Bavaria being unable to aid him, he has submitted to the demands of the Allied Powers. He has signed a declaration of neutrality, dismissed his Russian ministers, recalled his generals from the frontier, and appointed a cabinet composed of some of the honest statesmen of Greece. But the difficulties of the allies are not terminated. It is surmised that the new Ministry will not work, and that the intrigues of the Court and the demoralisation of the people will prevent the success of an honest system of government. Greece is, unfortunately, deficient in able and upright statesmen, and letters from that country state that it must be from the Protecting Powers, rather than from her own sons, that the work of administrative reform and national reorganization must originate. This ab-

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Of the announcements made in either House before its rising—including, we observe with satisfaction, that of the withdrawal of Lord Campbell's Unauthorised Negotiation Bill—the most important is that touching the creation of a War Minister. The statements promised on the re-assembling of Parliament, it is understood, were only reserved till then because the newly created office was not filled up. According to the *Times*, the Duke of Newcastle has had to choose between the retention of his present post and the separate discharge of the duties hitherto attached thereto; Lord Palmerston taking the Ministry of War, if refused by the Duke, and Sir George Grey or Mr. Baines succeeding to the Home-office; but in the event of the Duke's accepting the former, Sir William Molesworth to become the ruler of the colonies. In this latter arrangement there is a degree of poetical justice that is not often realized on the political stage; and it would be no disadvantage, in the judgment of a daily increasing party in the State, that Lord Palmerston lost the coveted opportunity of combining his old functions—ruling the Foreign-office through the Horse Guards.

The Duke of Newcastle, at any rate, would arrive at the new eminence unsoiled by the mud lately cast at him. The committee on the Stonor case have reported Mr. Moore's accusation of venality in the Colonial-office utterly unfounded; and though not exempting from the blame of hasty indiscretion, virtually censure the dealer out of gravest charges on no better authority than Irish gossip—of all females, the most garrulous and unveracious.

The men of Sheffield have taken advantage of the Whit-Monday holiday, to re-demonstrate their attachment to the cause of Poland and Hungary, and their idea of the war with Russia. M. Kossuth was a specially invited guest, and twice addressed the people—in the morning, at an out-of-door meeting numbering many thousands. He proved himself once more the perfect master of popular oratory—in the one speech, making an imposing summary of his case; in the other, supporting it by a long historical argument; but in both, breathing a contagion of fervour and pathos. This is not, however, a time when the finest rhetorical exertions may be permitted to pass unchallenged. The questions, Can we justly attempt that to which we are exhorted? or, can we safely neglect it? are of awful magnitude and urgency. To these questions we have addressed ourselves in another column—finding, however, rather a new opportunity than a new topic. None of our contemporaries can afford to pass them by, reluctant as they may be to handle the hot coals of national sentiment and military strategy. The *Globe* ridicules the orator for Poland and Hungary as a man of words; and only brings itself into contempt. The *Times* labours to puff away his propositions as irrelevant; but avoids direct reply to the demand, Why should we spare an enemy's weakest point? and why prefer the alliance of a bankrupt and notoriously-faithless court for that of free, intelligent, and valorous peoples? We know of no reply but that which we have given.

What frightful dangers we incur by leaving colonial governorships and belligerent powers in hands virtually irresponsible, is prettily illustrated by the affair of the Falkland Islands. The majority of Englishmen were probably ignorant till the other day either of the whereabouts or ownership of those islands; and none of us supposed that wild hogs are so important a part of the population, that the indiscreet slaughter of some twenty-two of them by an American captain would constitute a case for armed intervention. So it proved, however. The offending American was arrested, ship and all, by a British man-of-war, tried, convicted, and fined £880! An American man-of-war, chancing to be in the neighbourhood, interfered to such purpose that the fine was reduced to £27; and has since, we learn, been converted into a compensation. This is certainly the reduction to absurdity of a business that might have inflamed to a tremendous magnitude and fierceness.

It is fortunate, too, that we are not compelled, even in the most democratic state, to accept the



doings of a Parliament as the faithful reflection of its constituents; else what an afflicting estimate of the American mind must we form from the proceedings of Congress on the Nebraska Bill. Not only has that infamous measure passed by a majority of nine, but the last stage of the struggle, — protracted over thirty six hours, — was one of passionate contention, well nigh issuing in bloodshed. We would sugar from the disgraceful violence of the majority the consciousness of their disagreement with the sober opinion of the nation, and an early reversal of their iniquitous decision.

#### NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WHY the Parliament of the busiest and greatest empire in the world should think it necessary, whatever may be the state of public business, to adjourn over the "Derby Day," is a question which cannot be answered, we fear, to the credit of our legislative assemblies. It is not merely because horse-racing is not to our taste that we make the remark—for it would be quite as pertinent, and not a whit more so, were the Houses to suspend business for the purpose of listening to the performance of the "Elijah," or of whiling away an hour or two with Albert Smith. Why, all the shreds and savings of time which it is proposed by Sir John Pakington to gain by abbreviating some of the forms of the House, will not amount in a whole session to the number of hours wilfully thrown away in "count-outs" and "holidays." It is amusing to observe the House discussing for the better part of an evening how they can best expedite the progress of business, when, in the first place, there is little or no business to be done, and, in the second, the House of Commons is not in a temper to do it, but rushes off incontinently, from Oxford University and Church-rate Bills, to the Epsom race-course. Seriously, however, it is useless to anticipate smooth or rapid progress in the work of legislation, whilst Parliament continues to constitute itself the sole authority on petty local interests, and whilst discussion is carried on by relays of speakers who repeat the same arguments over and over again, sometimes from a sheer love of talk, but oftener, we believe, because those who speak late in a debate, know nothing of what may have been said in the earlier and middle stages of it. If Lord John Russell were less pleased with the toils of his office than notoriously he is, there seems no good reason why Parliament should not be up by the end of the present month.

The Oxford University Bill is now the only stock measure on the hands of the Government—all the others having been rejected or withdrawn, or hung up in Select Committee for the remainder of the session. Even this measure can only be saved, it would appear, from the general wreck, by abridging its provisions, and by handing over its more disputable details to the University Commission, which, on this account, is to be increased in number. On Thursday night, after six or seven hours' debate on a couple of clauses, or, more correctly speaking, on a single one, Lord John Russell made an announcement to this effect, greatly to the relief, we think, of the majority of the House. The question under discussion on Thursday night was one which contained the marrow of the reform, as proposed by Government. The clause enacts that any resident member of convocation may receive students, who shall be entitled, under certain regulations, to all University privileges. In the institution of these "private halls," the Colleges foresee the break-up of their monopoly, and, of course, such men as Mr. Goulburn object to it on this account. On the other hand, the restriction of the right to open these "halls" to resident members of convocation, insisted upon with a professed view to the preservation of moral and religious discipline, or, in other words, Church of England influence and authority, was objected to by Mr. Ewart and others as a needless limitation of educational advantages. The member for Dumfries, therefore, proposed that "every resident householder" in Oxford should be at liberty to receive into his family University undergraduates, in which proposition he was supported by a majority of forty-one only. The member for Cambridge University moved to leave out the words which authorise the institution of "private halls," in which he was supported by Mr. Walpole and Sir John Pakington, and, at wearisome length, by Mr. Newdegate—but was ably opposed by Mr. Roundell Palmer, Lord John Russell, and Sir W. Heathcote. Great stress was laid upon carrying this clause by the Ministerial subordinates, and the whips were unusually active and vigilant. The result was a majority of 205 to 113 in favour of the proposal of Government.

Friday night was variously occupied. In the first place there was that stage of Parliamentary proceedings which, during the war at least, is least tedious, and excites most attention, viz., the questioning of Ministers upon the current topics of the day, and their respective replies. Thus, among other things, we had from Sir James Graham a graphic account of the little

naval exploit at Hango, upon the perfect correctness of which, private correspondence raises some doubts. Then came a motion of Lord John Russell's precluding the moving of new writs for Canterbury, Cambridge, Hull, Barnstable, and Maldon, without seven days' previous notice—on which a sort of miscellaneous discussion took place, the salient features of which were a defence of Lord John and Lord Aberdeen, as sincere Parliamentary reformers, by Mr. Thos. Duncombe, and a recommendation by Mr. Bright and Mr. Hume, that the noble lord, having exhausted all his own means of putting down bribery and intimidation, but without effect, should have recourse to the Ballot. But the main part of the night was given up to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's taxation measures—his Customs' Duties bill, and his Excise bill, relating to the increase of duties on sugar and whiskey. On the latter, two divisions were taken on behalf of the Irish distillers, who asked a postponement of the measure for a fortnight, both of which showed considerable majorities in favour of Government. The House, at a rising, adjourned to to-morrow.

We are now about to enter upon the last, the most laborious, and, generally speaking, by far the most dangerous period of legislative occupation. When the House meets daily at noon, and sits oftentimes till dawn—when numbers of hon. members have paired off for the rest of the session and those who remain are more anxious to push on quickly than to proceed well—when fatigue begins to overpower vigilance, and disgust succeeds to caution—then, commonly, the Lower House is flooded with bills from the House of Lords, and our spasmodic Home Secretary lays on the table fresh batches of measures which his subordinates have prepared "to order," and which need to be severely scrutinized. More mischief is done in the last six weeks of a session than in the preceding six months. Our suspicions, perhaps, may prove unfounded—but we cannot help anticipating an attempt at smartness by Lord Palmerston, who, for some months, has been ominously quiet. Unless he gets the post of War minister, which goodness forefend! we fear he will cover his vexation by an unnatural spurt of energy in Home affairs. He has already made a good many promises—what if he should attempt to redeem them all? Why, he may cut out work enough for a twelvemonth, if it is to be done as it should be, and he will have to gallop through it in three or four weeks. The Radicals had need keep a sharp eye upon his movements—and especially if he means to make up for lost time. No Minister is more fond of making a dash—no Minister is more unsafe to follow with heedless confidence.

Bating the possibility we have spoken of above, we see nothing of importance to keep Parliament together but the Oxford University Bill, and the Civil Service Estimates, which, by the by, are framed in a spirit of the most reckless extravagance. So far as the House of Commons is concerned, three weeks might suffice, if well employed, to finish up its business, and a prorogation might take place early in July. Indeed, to this members are pretty confidently looking forward—reckoning, we fear, without their host. But whether the session end sooner or later than usual, it is certain of being as barren of good measures as any within memory. Such is one of the heavy penalties which the people of this country have to pay for an European war. As Sam Weller said—"Fruits is out, and cats is in." For the present we must be content to receive "more kicks than halfpence."

#### THE KERNEL OF THE WAR QUESTION.

WE heartily welcome Louis Kossuth back to the English platform. His intervals of silence and of speech have been alike timeous, since he first set foot upon our shores. He has held his peace and opened his most eloquent lips, with an equal regard to the considerations of a lofty prudence and a disinterested dignity. Insolent and cruel insinuations have not moved him to break his self-imposed reserve. Slandrous charges of conspiracy, shot even from the Ministerial bench, have fallen harmless at his feet. The knowledge that rapturous applause ever waits upon his appearance, has failed to draw him from his modest retreat, till events joined in demanding that he should show himself. He finds his reward in the undiminished admiration and confidence of the people among whom he has sought refuge—in the indisputableness of his right to be heard on the conduct of a war which he has done nothing to provoke.

In his speech at Sheffield, on the morning of Monday last, M. Kossuth broke away the outward shell of political conventionalism, and exhibited the very kernel of the war question. For what, he asks his multitudinous audience, have you gone to war? Is it not for the freedom of Europe? and is Poland or Hungary less than Turkey the victim of Russian despotism? yet, have not your rulers wedded the force of England and France to Austrian despotism, which is equally detestable with that of Russia, and impotent to boot? To

these questions there were thundered responses in the affirmative. For no other answer could be given. The most ingenious flatterer of a Sheffield mob dare not put on paper the denial. If there be one sentiment common to all England, it is that of compassion for "quartered Poland and assassinated Hungary," with indignant hatred of their butchers. There are differences wide and deep enough as to the character of Kossuth and Czartoriski—but, with one base and insignificant exception, all classes unite in sympathy for the countries those distinguished exiles represent. The very select few on whom Nicholas may have smiled in London saloons, or who have been presented at the Court of Vienna, no doubt have affinities that answer to their fortune. But, as a people, we desire the restoration of independence to nations that have been despoiled of it, just as unanimously as we should determine to defend our own. Our constitutionalism is only a part of our patriotism. It is this national characteristic that has made us eager to arm against Russia, when the old political phrases and international antipathies could not have drawn a single sword from its sheath. For "glory," we care now next to nothing. For our "honour," we are by no means so jealous as in times past. The one we know to be only a lurid phantom, raised by the heat of imagination from a pool of blood—the other a counterfeit, ruinous to the nation which takes it for the precious metal it simulates. It is only "liberty" that can rouse us to belligerent action. And that for which we fight, we would not have monopolized by our immediate client. The repression of a direct attack by Russia on the independence of one neighbouring country, induced us to make war—but nothing less than the restitution of her spoils will reconcile us to making peace.

This we say for our countrymen at large. For ourselves, we hope our position is well defined, and our course consistent. Liberty, we have always said, is not to be purchased for one people by the blood of another; if for no other reason, because they who pay the price have no means of enforcing the bargain. We could not give our voice for war on behalf of Hungary; and disclosures subsequent to the event, have proved that dismally would England have been deluded had opposite councils prevailed. The Minister who played into the hands of Austria while he affected to denounce her to the world, would have finished his game none the less safely for the noise of war. Since we have known that he and his compeers prize the integrity of Austria far above the independence of Hungary—as we have marked, too, their supreme anxiety to make Austria our ally, that she might not perish in her neutrality or antagonism—we have been assured, if we had ever doubted, that war with Russia means nothing but war with Russia—battles on the Danube, the Euxine, or the Baltic; victories fruitful in carnage and excitement, barren of the precious fruits we were willing to nourish from our veins. While, therefore, we cheerfully acknowledge Kossuth's right, from his stand-point, to denounce the Austrian alliance, and evoke a new war-cry—we must also make conspicuous his bitter complaints that English diplomacy has ever been unfaithful to English sentiment.

Those justly indignant wailings have a double significance. They should have deterred us from making war, as well as changed our opinions of certain politicians. They should have awakened the grave inquiry,—If we cannot trust these men to write a letter in our name, how can we trust them to direct hostile armaments? if they juggled us when only our moral influence was in their trust, will they be more faithful when they hold our lives, our fortunes, our all, in their closed hands? They should have suggested the obvious reflection, that where there is not identity of purpose, no amount of activity can produce an identical result. The 120 memorials from the most populous towns of Great Britain having failed to extort one good, honest word from Downing-street on behalf of Hungary, there could be no sane hope that a *carte blanche* to destroy her only dreaded foe would be used in the spirit of the commission. We cannot doubt that, had these things been duly pondered, the peace of Europe would have been preserved—at least, till we could get the dogs of war under our own hand. Were they duly pondered now, instead of fanning the conflagration we have kindled, we should hastily extinguish it, and soberly look about us. For, at every step, we recede further from the object on which we had set our hearts. Austrian alliance means, Hungary and Poland quiescent—or with England for their foe; and that alliance is the only hope of an early conclusion to the war. But a war abruptly terminated will be a war resultless of good to the very people for whom we waged it. In the same breath, we cheer Kossuth's speech, and hail the prospect of a Russian retreat. We sign a memorial for Polish independence, and rise from our stooping posture to huzza the tidings of a victory that may close the chapter of accidents. We are as men who beat the air, or who walk in their sleep. We strike where we think the enemy is, and only



## THE NEWSPAPER STAMP RETURNS.

The return of penny stamps for newspapers in the United Kingdom for the years 1851-2-3, has been followed by a return showing the number of stamps issued to the various journals published in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin for the first quarter of the present year. We have before shown that, according to these returns, the circulation of the *Nonconformist* has progressively increased since its establishment in 1841—that while in 1842 the number of stamps supplied to us was 110,850, in 1853, it had risen to 167,000—and that our circulation in the last-named year showed an increase of 17,825 over that of 1852. The new return more than confirms these favourable conclusions, and enables us to draw up the following list of metropolitan newspapers having a smaller circulation than our own:—

Names.	Stamps. 1851.	Stamps. 1852.	Stamps. 1853.	Stamps. 1st Qr. 1853.	Stamps. 1st Qr. 1854.
NONCONFORMIST	149,700	149,175	167,000	36,500	41,000
Spectator	150,000	149,000	145,500	38,500	40,000
British Banner	196,900	193,375	202,300	39,750	36,500
Weekly Standard	263,315	247,310	184,000	50,000	31,000
Watchman	314,000	190,000	170,000	40,000	30,000
Leader	115,000	98,000	130,700	24,500	29,000
John Bull	110,000	110,000	93,000	20,000	25,000
Britannia	133,000	194,250	103,500	27,750	24,500
Atlas	80,350	73,852	76,500	19,500	23,750
Patriot	137,000	137,700	131,966	33,000	30,000
Weekly News	93,000	107,500	66,000	15,000	15,000
Christian Times	86,500	69,800	62,575	18,500	14,000
Inquirer	50,000	44,000	40,000	12,000	14,000

It appears from this statement, that our circulation during the past quarter surpassed that of twelve other London journals, and places us at the head of the Dissenting press. While our issue was 4,500 more than the highest of our Nonconformist contemporaries, it was nearly three times that of the lowest. We hope we may be allowed to regard this distinction as an incentive to continue in the courses we have heretofore pursued, and an indication that steadfast adherence to radical principles and independence of sects and parties, is a sure passport to public confidence.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"An Old Noncon." should have sent his letter before. It is now somewhat out of date, and our columns are otherwise occupied.  
 "Justitia." We have acted upon the advice of his letter in the most efficient manner that occurred to us.  
 "A Subscriber." Routledge and Co., or of any bookseller.

## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1854.

## SUMMARY.

THE Earl of Aberdeen's promise, in the House of Lords on Thursday, that "nothing will be left undone by the Government to arrive at that conclusion which will best be produced by the vigorous conduct of the war," seems in process of realization. Impatience and suspicion, the almost inevitable consequence of ignorance and irresponsibility, and incidental to most great enterprises at their outset, are giving way under the influence of the news wafted across the Baltic and Central Europe. The allied forces have begun the campaign in earnest. The first official despatches from the North contain details of an operation described by Sir Charles Napier as "an exploit worthy of British arms in the best times of our naval history." The actual results of the daring attack on Eckness, and the preliminary bombardment of Hango, are trivial enough, but they confirm previous impressions of the longer range and more efficient working of the English guns—vital considerations in naval warfare. One account from the scene of action says:—"We were out of their range, while we could just nicely hit them, for the fact was that all their shot fell short of us, while not one of ours but struck some part of the fort we were firing at." If this be the result of small cannon on board steamers, it is manifest that the heavy guns of line of battle ships are calculated to do greater execution. If Cronstadt and Sebastopol are reduced, it will be rather by scientific calculation, and "the long range," than by personal qualities or naval gallantry. We are glad to find that the town of Eckness was, like Odessa, left uninjured. Such humanity is not without result, as is seen in the kind treatment of the captured seamen of the *Tiger* by the Russian authorities, though they refuse to exchange prisoners.

From the East intelligence is even more interesting, or at least important, than from the Baltic. While we are on the *qui-vive* for some great exploit, immense if not showy results are being achieved. Vice-Admiral Hamelin's letter shows that the combined squadron in the Euxine is per-

forming its duty most effectually. The Russians are completely blockaded in Sebastopol, and the fruits of twenty-five campaigns in Circassia and Georgia had perished without a blow being struck. They have, according to the official accounts, "abandoned the sixteen forts, reared only after so much toil and so many battles on the two hundred leagues of the coast, which extends from Anapa, near the sea of Azof, nearly to the port of Batoum"—"all the Russian possessions on the Circassian coast have been destroyed or abandoned," so that the flank of the Russian army in Asia is exposed, her victorious career in Armenia cut short, and Turkey saved from further defeat in Anatolia. In this there is no record of brilliant feats of arms, or dreadful carnage, but the results are substantial, and most fatal to the Muscovite schemes of Asiatic conquest. Before long we may perhaps hear that the Russian possessions in Georgia are endangered.

On the Danube, Russia has still a short respite till she retires before the superior forces of her combined foes. The siege of Silistria is pressed forward with the utmost energy and the most reckless disregard of life, as though the Ozar were determined, at any cost, to strike one blow ere he confessed his inability to cope with the dangers that accumulate on every hand. But, as yet, he has failed. Some 8,000 men have, it is said, been already immolated before this fortress; and successive repulses, combined with the rising of the Danube, have obliged the besieging party to recommence their preparations. It is remarkable that, up to the present time, the formidable Muscovite Power has gained no advantage—unless the passage of the Danube, and the occupation of the Dobrukscha, be so regarded. On the other hand, her troops are repeatedly defeated in small engagements on both sides of the great river; and her hospitals crowded with the victims of war as well as fever. The moral effect of these petty conflicts cannot but be considerable; and should Omar Pasha advance to the relief of Silistria, the Russians would fight a battle beneath its walls, and with the broad Danube in their rear, at a serious disadvantage.

Such an engagement is unlikely. The embarkation of 25,000 French and 15,000 English troops for Varna shows that decisive movements are in prospect, whilst the Balkans are guarded by detachments sent overland to Adrianople. In the plan of the campaign adopted at the Varna Conference, which of course will be divulged only by events, great deference would, no doubt, be paid to the views of Omar Pasha. It is no secret that he is anxious for the arrival of an Anglo-French army to occupy the country between Varna and Shumla, and to feel their way in advance of that line, so as to menace the Russians from Chornavoda to Kostenje, while he pursues his successes in Wallachia, and endangers their right flank by pushing a large force on Bucharest. The advance of the Russians to the Balkans, if seriously intended, may be considered as abandoned. Lesser Wallachia, removed at an inconvenient distance from Russian territory, has also been evacuated, and if Silistria holds out a few weeks longer it will be difficult for the Czar to retain his footing on the right bank of the Danube, even towards the north-east. The expectation that the Russian troops will have evacuated the Principalities ere the close of the campaign is not a sanguine one, more especially as the Austrian summons for that purpose has actually been sent to St. Petersburg, thus affording the Emperor a convenient pretext for retiring, and then resuming negotiations.

The position of Austria is still undefined, though the formidable force in Galicia and Transylvania, and the collection of Russian troops originally intended for the Danube, on her north-east frontier, with their advanced guard menacing Cracow—the departure of Baron Meyendorff from Vienna—and, above all, the signing of a convention between Austria, France, England and the Porte, empowering the former to occupy Albania and Montenegro "in certain determined eventualities," show that Austria is no longer to be reckoned on as the ally of the Czar. The first symptom of real hostility between the two Powers will probably be disturbances in Hungary.

King Otho has succumbed to the necessities of his position. His patron, the Czar, and his relative of Bavaria being unable to aid him, he has submitted to the demands of the Allied Powers. He has signed a declaration of neutrality, dismissed his Russian ministers, recalled his generals from the frontier, and appointed a cabinet composed of some of the honest statesmen of Greece. But the difficulties of the allies are not terminated. It is surmised that the new Ministry will not work, and that the intrigues of the Court and the demoralisation of the people will prevent the success of an honest system of government. Greece is, unfortunately, deficient in able and upright statesmen, and letters from that country state that it must be from the Protecting Powers, rather than from her own sons, that the work of administrative reform and national reorganization must originate. This ab-

sence of self-reliance in the Greeks is a sad omen for the future.

In this, the fourth month of the war, our position at home is most remarkable. The Monthly Trade Returns, though showing, for the first time a falling off in our exports to the extent of £747,527, as compared with the very extraordinary exports of last year, indicate that trade and commerce are still pursued with scarcely abated activity. Very little of our commerce has been stopped by the war. The demand for capital is still active, there is no diminution, but a continual increase in consumption, and for agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial labour there is a steady demand. The money market is rising, the supply of bullion again on the increase, and the prospects of the harvest, thus far, highly encouraging, notwithstanding isolated reports of the re-appearance of the potato disease.

Of the announcements made in either House before its rising—including, we observe with satisfaction, that of the withdrawal of Lord Campbell's Unauthorised Negotiation Bill—the most important is that touching the creation of a War Minister. The statements promised on the re-assembling of Parliament, it is understood, were only reserved till then because the newly created office was not filled up. According to the *Times*, the Duke of Newcastle has had to choose between the retention of his present post and the separate discharge of the duties hitherto attached thereto; Lord Palmerston taking the Ministry of War, if refused by the Duke, and Sir George Grey or Mr. Baines succeeding to the Home-office; but in the event of the Duke's accepting the former, Sir William Molesworth to become the ruler of the colonies. In this latter arrangement there is a degree of poetical justice that is not often realized on the political stage; and it would be no disadvantage, in the judgment of a daily increasing party in the State, that Lord Palmerston lost the coveted opportunity of combining his old functions—ruling the Foreign-office through the Horse Guards.

The Duke of Newcastle, at any rate, would arrive at the new eminence unsoiled by the mud lately cast at him. The committee on the Stonor case have reported Mr. Moore's accusation of venality in the Colonial-office utterly unfounded; and though not exempting from the blame of hasty indiscretion, virtually censure the dealer out of gravest charges on no better authority than Irish Gossip—of all females, the most garrulous and unveracious.

The men of Sheffield have taken advantage of the Whit-Monday holiday, to re-demonstrate their attachment to the cause of Poland and Hungary, and their idea of the war with Russia. M. Kosuth was a specially invited guest, and twice addressed the people—in the morning, at an out-of-door meeting numbering many thousands. He proved himself once more the perfect master of popular oratory—in the one speech, making an imposing summary of his case; in the other, supporting it by a long historical argument; but in both, breathing a contagion of fervour and pathos. This is not, however, a time when the finest rhetorical exertions may be permitted to pass unchallenged. The questions, Can we justly attempt that to which we are exhorted? or, can we safely neglect it? are of awful magnitude and urgency. To these questions we have addressed ourselves in another column—finding, however, rather a new opportunity than a new topic. None of our contemporaries can afford to pass them by, reluctant as they may be to handle the hot coals of national sentiment and military strategy. The *Globe* ridicules the orator for Poland and Hungary as a man of words; and only brings itself into contempt. The *Times* labours to puff away his propositions as irrelevant; but avoids direct reply to the demand. Why should we spare an enemy's weakest point? and why prefer the alliance of a bankrupt and notoriously-faithless court for that of free, intelligent, and valorous peoples? We know of no reply but that which we have given.

What frightful dangers we incur by leaving colonial governorships and belligerent powers in hands virtually irresponsible, is prettily illustrated by the affair of the Falkland Islands. The majority of Englishmen were probably ignorant till the other day either of the whereabouts or ownership of those islands; and none of us supposed that wild hogs are so important a part of the population, that the indiscreet slaughter of some twenty-two of them by an American captain would constitute a case for armed intervention. So it proved, however. The offending American was arrested, ship and all, by a British man-of-war, tried, convicted, and fined £880! An American man-of-war, chancing to be in the neighbourhood, interfered to such purpose that the fine was reduced to £27; and has since, we learn, been converted into a compensation. This is certainly the reduction to absurdity of a business that might have inflamed to a tremendous magnitude and fierceness.

It is fortunate, too, that we are not compelled, even in the most democratic state, to accept the



doings of a Parliament as the faithful reflection of its constituents; else what an afflicting estimate of the American mind must we form from the proceedings of Congress on the Nebraska Bill. Not only has that infamous measure passed by a majority of nine, but the last stage of the struggle, —protracted over thirty six hours,—was one of passionate contention, well nigh issuing in bloodshed. We would sugar from the disgraceful violence of the majority the consciousness of their disagreement with the sober opinion of the nation, and an early reversal of their iniquitous decision.

#### NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WHY the Parliament of the busiest and greatest empire in the world should think it necessary, whatever may be the state of public business, to adjourn over the "Derby Day," is a question which cannot be answered, we fear, to the credit of our legislative assemblies. It is not merely because horse-racing is not to our taste that we make the remark—for it would be quite as pertinent, and not a whit more so, were the Houses to suspend business; or the purpose of listening to the performance of the "Elijah," or of whiling away an hour or two with Albert Smith. Why, all the shreds and savings of time which it is proposed by Sir John Pakington to gain by abbreviating some of the forms of the House, will not amount in a whole session to the number of hours wilfully thrown away in "count-outs" and "holidays." It is amusing to observe the House discussing for the better part of an evening how they can best expedite the progress of business, when, in the first place, there is little or no business to be done, and, in the second, the House of Commons is not in a temper to do it, but rushes off incontinently, from Oxford University and Church-rate Bills, to the Epsom race-course. Seriously, however, it is useless to anticipate smooth or rapid progress in the work of legislation, whilst Parliament continues to constitute itself the sole authority on petty local interests, and whilst discussion is carried on by relays of speakers who repeat the same arguments over and over again, sometimes from a sheer love of talk, but oftener, we believe, because those who speak late in a debate, know nothing of what may have been said in the earlier and middle stages of it. If Lord John Russell were less pleased with the toils of his office than notoriously he is, there seems no good reason why Parliament should not be up by the end of the present month.

The Oxford University Bill is now the only stock measure on the hands of the Government—all the others having been rejected or withdrawn, or hung up in Select Committee for the remainder of the session. Even this measure can only be saved, it would appear, from the general wreck, by abridging its provisions, and by handing over its more disputable details to the University Commission, which, on this account, is to be increased in number. On Thursday night, after six or seven hours' debate on a couple of clauses, or, more correctly speaking, on a single one, Lord John Russell made an announcement to this effect, greatly to the relief, we think, of the majority of the House. The question under discussion on Thursday night was one which contained the marrow of the reform, as proposed by Government. The clause enacts that any resident member of convocation may receive students, who shall be entitled, under certain regulations, to all University privileges. In the institution of these "private halls," the Colleges foresee the break-up of their monopoly, and, of course, such men as Mr. Goulburn object to it on this account. On the other hand, the restriction of the right to open these "halls" to resident members of convocation, insisted upon with a professed view to the preservation of moral and religious discipline, or, in other words, Church of England influence and authority, was objected to by Mr. Ewart and others as a needless limitation of educational advantages. The member for Dumfries, therefore, proposed that "every resident householder" in Oxford should be at liberty to receive into his family University undergraduates, in which proposition he was supported by a majority of forty-one only. The member for Cambridge University moved to leave out the words which authorise the institution of "private halls," in which he was supported by Mr. Walpole and Sir John Pakington, and, at wearisome length, by Mr. Newdegate—but was ably opposed by Mr. Roundell Palmer, Lord John Russell, and Sir W. Heathcote. Great stress was laid upon carrying this clause by the Ministerial subordinates, and the whips were unusually active and vigilant. The result was a majority of 205 to 113 in favour of the proposal of Government.

Friday night was variously occupied. In the first place there was that stage of Parliamentary proceedings which, during the war at least, is least tedious, and excites most attention, viz., the questioning of Ministers upon the current topics of the day, and their respective replies. Thus, among other things, we had from Sir James Graham a graphic account of the little

naval exploit at Hango, upon the perfect correctness of which, private correspondence raises some doubts. Then came a motion of Lord John Russell's precluding the moving of new writs for Canterbury, Cambridge, Hull, Barnstable, and Maldon, without seven days' previous notice—on which a sort of miscellaneous discussion took place, the salient features of which were a defence of Lord John and Lord Aberdeen, as sincere Parliamentary reformers, by Mr. Thos. Duncombe, and a recommendation by Mr. Bright and Mr. Hume, that the noble lord, having exhausted all his own means of putting down bribery and intimidation, but without effect, should have recourse to the Ballot. But the main part of the night was given up to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's taxation measures—his Customs' Duties bill, and his Excise bill, relating to the increase of duties on sugar and whiskey. On the latter, two divisions were taken on behalf of the Irish distillers, who asked a postponement of the measure for a fortnight, both of which showed considerable majorities in favour of Government. The House, at its rising, adjourned to to-morrow.

We are now about to enter upon the last, the most laborious, and, generally speaking, by far the most dangerous period of legislative occupation. When the House meets daily at noon, and sits oftentimes till dawn—when numbers of hon. members have paired off for the rest of the session and those who remain are more anxious to push on quickly than to proceed well—when fatigue begins to overpower vigilance, and disgust succeeds to caution—then, commonly, the Lower House is flooded with bills from the House of Lords, and our spasmodic Home Secretary lays on the table fresh batches of measures which his subordinates have prepared "to order," and which need to be severely scrutinized. More mischief is done in the last six weeks of a session than in the preceding six months. Our suspicions, perhaps, may prove unfounded—but we cannot help anticipating an attempt at smartness by Lord Palmerston, who, for some months, has been ominously quiet. Unless he gets the post of War minister, which goodness forefend! we fear he will cover his vexation by an unnatural spurt of energy in Home affairs. He has already made a good many promises—what if he should attempt to redeem them all? Why, he may cut out work enough for a twelvemonth, if it is to be done as it should be, and he will have to gallop through it in three or four weeks. The Radicals had need keep a sharp eye upon his movements—and especially if he means to make up for lost time. No Minister is more fond of making a dash—no Minister is more unsafe to follow with heedless confidence.

Bating the possibility we have spoken of above, we see nothing of importance to keep Parliament together but the Oxford University Bill, and the Civil Service Estimates, which, by the by, are framed in a spirit of the most reckless extravagance. So far as the House of Commons is concerned, three weeks might suffice, if well employed, to finish up its business, and a prorogation might take place early in July. Indeed, to this members are pretty confidently looking forward—reckoning, we fear, without their host. But whether the session end sooner or later than usual, it is certain of being as barren of good measures as any within memory. Such is one of the heavy penalties which the people of this country have to pay for an European war. As Sam Weller said—"Fruits is out, and cats is in." For the present we must be content to receive "more kicks than halfpence."

#### THE KERNEL OF THE WAR QUESTION.

WE heartily welcome Louis Kossuth back to the English platform. His intervals of silence and of speech have been alike timeous, since he first set foot upon our shores. He has held his peace and opened his most eloquent lips, with an equal regard to the considerations of a lofty prudence and a disinterested dignity. Insolent and cruel insinuations have not moved him to break his self-imposed reserve. Slandrous charges of conspiracy, shot even from the Ministerial bench, have fallen harmless at his feet. The knowledge that rapturous applause ever waits upon his appearance, has failed to draw him from his modest retreat, till events joined in demanding that he should show himself. He finds his reward in the undiminished admiration and confidence of the people among whom he has sought refuge—in the indisputableness of his right to be heard on the conduct of a war which he has done nothing to provoke.

In his speech at Sheffield, on the morning of Monday last, M. Kossuth broke away the outward shell of political conventionalism, and exhibited the very kernel of the war question. For what, he asks his multitudinous audience, have you gone to war? Is it not for the freedom of Europe? and is Poland or Hungary less than Turkey the victim of Russian despotism? yet, have not your rulers wedded the force of England and France to Austrian despotism, which is equally detestable with that of Russia, and impotent to boot? To

these questions there were thundered responses in the affirmative. For no other answer could be given. The most ingenious libeller of a Sheffield mob dare not put on paper the denial. If there be one sentiment common to all England, it is that of compassion for "quartered Poland and assassinated Hungary," with indignant hatred of their butchers. There are differences wide and deep enough as to the character of Kossuth and Czartoriski—but, with one base and insignificant exception, all classes unite in sympathy for the countries those distinguished exiles represent. The very select few on whom Nicholas may have smiled in London saloons, or who have been presented at the Court of Vienna, no doubt have affinities that answer to their fortune. But, as a people, we desire the restoration of independence to nations that have been despoiled of it, just as unanimously as we should determine to defend our own. Our constitutionalism is only a part of our patriotism. It is this national characteristic that has made us eager to arm against Russia, when the old political phrases and international antipathies could not have drawn a single sword from its sheath. For "glory," we care now next to nothing. For our "honour," we are by no means so jealous as in times past. The one we know to be only a lurid phantom, raised by the heat of imagination from a pool of blood—the other a counterfeit, ruinous to the nation which takes it for the precious metal it simulates. It is only "liberty" that can rouse us to belligerent action. And that for which we fight, we would not have monopolised by our immediate client. The repression of a direct attack by Russia on the independence of one neighbouring country, induced us to make war—but nothing less than the restitution of her spoils will reconcile us to making peace.

This we say for our countrymen at large. For ourselves, we hope our position is well defined, and our course consistent. Liberty, we have always said, is not to be purchased for one people by the blood of another; if for no other reason, because they who pay the price have no means of enforcing the bargain. We could not give our voice for war on behalf of Hungary; and disclosures subsequent to the event, have proved that dishally would England have been deluded had opposite councils prevailed. The Minister who played into the hands of Austria while he affected to denounce her to the world, would have finished his game none the less safely for the noise of war. Since we have known that he and his compeers prize the integrity of Austria far above the independence of Hungary,—as we have marked, too, their supreme anxiety to make Austria our ally, that she might not perish in her neutrality or antagonism—we have been assured, if we had ever doubted, that war with Russia means nothing but war with Russia—battles on the Danube, the Euxine, or the Baltic; victories fruitful in carnage and excitement—barren of the precious fruits we were willing to nourish from our veins. While, therefore, we cheerfully acknowledge Kossuth's right, from his stand-point, to denounce the Austrian alliance, and evoke a new war-cry—we must also make conspicuous his bitter complaints that English diplomacy has ever been unfaithful to English sentiment.

Those justly indignant wailings have a double significance. They should have deterred us from making war, as well as changed our opinions of certain politicians. They should have awakened the grave inquiry,—If we cannot trust these men to write a letter in our name, how can we trust them to direct hostile armaments? if they juggled us when only our moral influence was in their trust, will they be more faithful when they hold our lives, our fortunes, our all, in their closed hands? They should have suggested the obvious reflection, that where there is not identity of purpose, no amount of activity can produce an identical result. The 120 memorials from the most populous towns of Great Britain having failed to extort one good, honest word from Downing-street on behalf of Hungary, there could be no sane hope that a *carte blanche* to destroy her only dreaded foe would be used in the spirit of the commission. We cannot doubt that, had these things been duly pondered, the peace of Europe would have been preserved—at least, till we could get the dogs of war under our own hand. Were they duly pondered now, instead of fanning the conflagration we have kindled, we should hastily extinguish it, and soberly look about us. For, at every step, we recede further from the object on which we had set our hearts. Austrian alliance means, Hungary and Poland quiescent—or with England for their foe; and that alliance is the only hope of an early conclusion to the war. But a war abruptly terminated will be a war resultless of good to the very people for whom we waged it. In the same breath, we cheer Kossuth's speech, and hail the prospect of a Russian retreat. We sign a memorial for Polish independence, and rise from our stooping posture to huzza the tidings of a victory that may close the chapter of accidents. We are as men who beat the air, or who walk in their sleep. We strike where we think the enemy is, and only



spend our strength. We follow our will but not our knowledge, and so may stumble into the ditch. In our honest eagerness to atone for our sin of omission in 1849, we now commit the sin of useless slaughter. Soon may we be undeceived; and, at whatever cost of humiliation, resolve to be the master of our own actions before we set up for the liberator of foreign peoples!

### AVARICE AND MISERY SHARPER THAN THE LAW.

CAPTAIN HAY'S second report of the operation, in the metropolis, of the Common Lodging-Houses Act, a document just "presented" and printed, informs us that there are now 1,441 such places certificated by the police as fit for the accommodation of about 80,000 persons; and no less than 3,276 not registered, but supervised, and estimated to accommodate about 50,000 more. The delay in registration appears to be caused by the necessity for repairs and improvements, which, it further appears, the proprietors and agents of these houses are generally very reluctant to perform. This class of persons, in the great majority of cases, says the Inspector, seem to have had no other object than "to extract the largest possible amount of weekly rent, without reference to the obligation attaching to them as landlords and respectable members of society." This characteristic is not so rare that it could be considered a peculiarity of the class in question, or have entitled them to the distinction of being inspected and reported upon by a Commissioner of Police. It was in the fact that so many as 80,000 helpless human beings, of all ages and both sexes, nightly crowded beneath the roofs of these greedy hosts, that there all morality was derided, and even decency set at naught—that there men and women herded together like brutes, and children were reared to all the vices, but none of the virtues, of savagism—that there pestilence was ever latent or active, and that thence death went forth on the winter damp, and summer sun-beam into happier habitations—it was these facts that justified, because they necessitated, the enactment which Captain Hay was appointed to enforce over the metropolitan districts.

In the performance of this duty, the Commissioner has had occasion, during the last fifteen months, to obtain 1,200 summonses against persons guilty of various offences against the Act. The largest proportion of these offences was that of *subletting single rooms*. In one case, fourteen persons were found sleeping, in filth and nakedness, on the floor where beds for four might have stood. In another instance, twelve adults and five children occupied the space allotted to seven. In a third, room for four was made to "accommodate" nine. Fines varying from five shillings to forty are the penalties of conviction. But even these it is difficult to levy. Of one offender, we read that she was taken from her wretched den to the sick ward of a workhouse; of another, that he did not appear to the summons, and absconded on the issue of a warrant. Another class of offenders it is still more difficult to reach—namely, the upholders of the nuisances which commonly abound in the same neighbourhood with cheap lodging-houses. The owner of a huge dust-heap, for instance, was summoned, and ordered to abate the nuisance—which he did by substituting fresh refuse for the old. A second application failed, the magistrate not having sufficient confidence in the authority given him by the Act. Still, it is matter for congratulation, if only as a proof of something being possible to vigilance and resolution—that the cases of fever, once so numerous that twenty patients have been removed from one house in the course of one week, were reduced to exactly ten out of the 80,000 persons inhabiting the registered lodging-houses.

That the whole 80,000—which we may set down as the floating population of the London of the poor—will ever be brought under such supervision as shall secure to them wholesome, decent, and not comfortless lodgment, is, however, too much to hope. The number of houses yet unregistered, and of offences detected within little more than one year, indicate the severity of the labour thus imposed upon the police, and their inadequacy to cope with the entire difficulty. The cupidity of small house-owners, and the degraded condition of most of those who must sleep on the pavement if a bed cost more than twopence, will continue to prove too strong for the unaided law. The competitive element must be brought into play. Never had it a field in which it could do so little mischief or work so much good. The provision of nightly shelter at a rate as cheap as that announced in dirty windows up the worst streets—of a night's rest and a wholesome breakfast for a few pence—would not only draw off the less degraded of the vagrant class, but extort a little outlay on repairs and furniture from the fist of miserly proprietorship. If the Legislature would lighten Captain Hay's too onerous duty, and rescue the lowest of London's lower tribes, let it make haste to sanction house proprietorship by unchartered and benevolent associations.

### A MORNING IN THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

It is rather more than three years since we stood for the first time within an edifice as novel in its material and architecture as in its destined purpose. It was the Crystal Palace, the scene of the Exhibition of the Industry of All Nations. Our first impressions of the interior of that edifice—though, even within a few days of the opening, but an iron skeleton, imperfectly clothed upon with its cold and colourless flesh—we shall certainly never forget. It was the impression of an enclosed infinitude of a vast walling-in and roofing-over of earth and air; but with walls that shut out nothing but the slaty wind, and a roof that screened from the playful outbursts without hiding the sudden beauty of the April clouds. Unlike all other structures, it seemed not to confine but to lengthen out one's view of circumambient space; as the telescope takes the eye prisoner only to incalculably enlarge its field of vision. The eighteen hundred feet of Hyde-park turf, up and down which we might have walked with little enough emotion—with only the everyday pleasure with which we look on grassy slopes and a winding stream, with a background of ancient trees, more ancient towers, and modern palaces—this third of a mile of common land had suddenly become a vista of wondering delight: a forest, a wilderness, a city, a world; a throne of mental rapture; a seat of sensuous luxury;—for the empty building, imagination peopled in a moment with the material representatives of all climes, industries, sciences, and arts, and with the human myriads that will always walk in the "desire of the eye." Kindled by "the hearing of the ear."

We can expect to get up no repetition of this rapture on a first visit to the second Crystal Palace—the Sydenham successor of the Hyde Park structure. There is everything to the disadvantage of this transplanted wonder but its site; and that is an advantage not to be appreciated on the journey from London to Anerley. We have heard, indeed, that from the extreme west of London, and from various parts of Surrey, and from the valleys of Kent, the new-blown bubble—

"Earth hath its bubbles as the water hath,  
And this is of them."

Mr. Ruskin says, may be seen shimmering in the morning light, or glaring ruby-red in the hour of sunset. As we emerge from the railway cutting beyond Forest-hill, we catch glimpses of a strange bright presence on a wood-clad height; bye-and-bye, we make out the grand proportions and familiar figure of a Paxton Palace; and as we climb the hill from Anerley to Norwood, the north-eastern corner of the building faces us like a great white star let down to rest upon the summit of our path. Still we do not yet perceive what is to compensate for the wanton destruction of the edifice which it was less the glory of this age to have erected than its reproach to have destroyed. Nor does the first view we gain of the interior (having entered by the central transept, and now standing in the centre of the nave) reveal any decisive gain. We know that this Sydenham Palace is not of less length than its predecessor; yet does it not wear that look of measureless extent, of dimly tapering away at either end, which was to us the special charm of the latter, and made not inappropriate its occasional designation, a Crystal Cathedral. But to most minds the absence of this effect will be more than compensated by that of the greater gaiety and breadth produced by triple transepts and warmer colouring. On the floor, too, we miss at once those several gigantic objects which seemed a natural part of the former palace—the colossal statuary, the great organ, and the central fountain. The latter, for aught we know, may yet throw up its mountains of water from this spacious floor to the roof that glitters 220 feet above us; but at present, the raw material of a royal dais and an orchestra for some 1,200 singers encumber the spot. And up and down the nave, the floor seems left permanently clear, except for fountains or flower beds; the statuary standing conveniently on either side, as if to make room for a promenading public. Yet do we, standing here, at not the most favourable point of view, perceive many features of superiority—the loftier, broader arch, really sublime in altitude and span; the rounding of the roof from end to end; the galleries, tier above tier, even to the fifth, at this point, running with airy lightness through the gorgeous maze of pillars, red and blue; and pierced with slender spiral staircases; the quite novel structures that abut conspicuously on either side of the nave; and the transparency, even from the floor, of the eastern wall, through which we gaze, without interruption, on distant wooded slopes, and may hereafter look on such a park and garden as not even Versailles can boast.

Letting chance determine the direction of our steps, we turn to the right of the spot from which we made

these observations; bestowing an inquiring glance, as we go, on the colossal figures of Rubens and De Queneay, that stand like beef-eaters at the foot of the dais; a glance of recognition on that of Sir Robert Peel, whom we know even in his black and imperfect effigy; and a glance of wonder at a huge Bavarian female head, which we hear has been shifted from place to place, and is not certain to abide in its present retirement. Applying ourselves to the first of the aforesaid structures on our right hand, we discover that it is one of the eighteen "courts," which are the Sydenham improvement on the Hyde-park "bays." Those in the southern nave are, with one exception, "industrial" or "commercial" courts. Not yet given up by their builders, or rather decorators, we cannot obtain admission, but only peer in through windows that permit a sight of elaborate design and execution in various styles. Stop—here is one to which an avenue is left through gates of bronze, which, with a panel painting of Cupids mining, casting, and forging, suffice to assure us we are in Mr. Tite's Birmingham Court. Each of the courts, by the way, or nearly so, has its individual architect and superintendent, to whose convenience or humour we may, therefore, attribute our exclusion or admission. Now we have come to rather extensive excavations in the floor, wherein a fountain is being built and beds of mould laid down. In the western recesses of the south transept, amidst a chaotic grove of trees, shrubs, and flowers, we meet, with surprise but no displeasure, King Charles—the duplicate of him of Charing-cross. Hard by is the already far-famed Pompeian court—the work of Signor Abbate, whom the King of Naples has made governor of his buried capital—said to be a perfect representation of Sallust's house. It is guarded now by a janitor (in blue), inflexible as the sentinel whom the lava-flood overwhelmed at his post; but we can discern through the apertures in the walls encaustic paintings and mosaic pavements that intensify our curiosity. A little lower down, is a space devoted to ethnology, zoology, and some other obdurate, but whose charm to 999 of every 1,000 visitors will be, the picturesque disposition of wild beasts and wilder men among strange, luxuriant vegetation; a tiger bounding into a company of Indians, and getting transfixed with arrows; serpents reposing among flowers, and monkeys gibbering upon branches. At the bottom of the nave—that is, at the northern end, and facing to the south—is an architectural "study," three sides of a quadrangle, in the later English style, niched for the accommodation of some sixty British sovereigns; Victoria regnant over the doorway through which she will enter, and Cromwell conspicuous (by his hat) in his proper chronological place. Coming up the nave again on the eastern side, we meet with another group ethnological, &c.; and miss some half-a-dozen Industrial Courts—none of them completed, and therefore none of them accessible.

The same we unfortunately find to be the case with the courts architectural in the northern half of the building. Egyptian and Assyrian, Greek and Roman, Saracenic and Gothic, little more than the exterior of any of these can we behold. Yet what volumes of promise are written on their exteriors. These gigantic figures and vivid colours—this perpetual repetition of forms familiar, though for ages obsolete—assure us that a spirit of truthful imitation has guided the hand of the rebuilders here of the tombs and temples of Thebes, and other cities of the sons of Ham, and of the palace of Sardaniapalus. This outer work of lintel and arch, of frieze and pediment, of arabesque and mosaic, assure us too that Owen Jones and his coadjutors have wrought with faithful industry to reproduce in little the Acropolis, the Capitol, and the Adhambra. This last is indeed a blaze of fantastic beauty even on the outer side; and we can only be seduced from gazing at it by catching glimpses of the purer glories of Christian architecture. Of the Byzantine, Gothic, and Italian Courts, Mr. Digby Wyatt's is the presiding genius; and he appears to have succeeded not less than Mr. Owen Jones in his more difficult task. He had to make a selection of points for the illustration of successive or partly contemporaneous styles. Great must have been the difficulty, and most admirably it appears to have been surmounted. Even a cursory outside glance reveals to the eye familiar with mediæval memorials, that not a school or country has been overlooked. Between the northern transept, where are an avenue of sphinxes and a grove of palms, and the central transept, where tower the Norfolk Island pines, there may be met with ancient crosses from old Ireland; Norman gateways from ancient English cities; the tombs of crusaders and the shrines of martyred saints; the impish tracery which the old sculptor loved to bind about the heads of doors and pillars; mighty groupings of Michael



Angelo, and the loving elaborations of Ghiberti. We had nearly forgot to say, that besides many an old favourite of the Great Exhibition, in marble or plaster, we find up and down here many we are right glad to look upon, having hitherto known them only from books—precious counterfeits of the treasures of every gallery in Europe.

The upper galleries are closed against us to day: they have probably been swept and garnished all in readiness for the inauguration day: and from the first gallery we can catch only partial views of the interior. But one thing we discover thence—that there are left, at each of the transepts on the eastern side, open corridors—whence what a glorious scene may be surveyed! Now we see for the first time that the Palace has a wing at either end, and that towers are being raised at either extremity; that terraces, broad and smooth, run along the entire front, connected by majestic flights of steps; that in the grounds below lakes and fountains are being made, and acres of garden are already in bloom. We must descend and explore—confessing, as we go, that the “former temple,” whose glory we thought unapproachable, neither had nor could have such magnificent addenda as these.

We find the entrance to the gardens is from a corridor, which we reach by a staircase opening from the central transept. We find the descent (or ascent) guarded by the traditional sphinxes, nobler than those you may see in the doorway of suburban villas. We turn back at every few yards to admire again the splendid façade from which we are receding. We make along the margin of an enormous basin for the rosarium,—a sort of Paxtonian *biyon*; as yet, without the roses. We traverse some many hundred yards of pounded brick and miry ruts to reach the seat of certain antediluvian monsters, whose recovery from the ruins of the world before the flood has been effected by Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins. At length we gain the spot, and look down from a mountain of mud on monsters of every name, chiefly resembling swollen frogs, who are bye and bye to “float full many a rood,” but at present are high and dry. We retrace our steps with the reflection, that this department will afford much food for fun, if not for science, if the directors permit to continue the present chaotic state of the approaches. We find ourselves upon a line of railway, along which tens of thousands per diem can be conveyed to the very threshold of the Palace. And, as we re-cross that threshold, thread our way among the workmen busy clearing up, and emerge in the Victoria-road, we bless the genius and enterprise that has prepared so grand and beautiful a refuge from the ennui that waits on wealth, and the monotony that darkens the life of labour.

#### PROGRAMME OF THE OPENING.

Holders of season tickets will be admitted at the north and south transepts, and by the railway, between the hours of eleven and two o'clock.

They will be allowed to take their places, subject to police regulations, in any part of the building except the parts railed off in the central transept and nave for the purposes of the ceremonial, and in the reserved seats.

Holders of special cards of invitation, or cards for reserved seats, will be admitted at a private entrance at the central transept, between the hours of eleven and two o'clock.

Exhibitors' attendants, who have been sanctioned by the directors, will be admitted at the railway station after two o'clock, and will immediately take their places by the counters or objects exhibited by their employers.

Her Majesty, with the Royal Family, and her suite, will leave Buckingham Palace so as to arrive at the central transept of the Crystal Palace precisely at three o'clock. She will ascend the dais and take her seat in the chair of state.

On her Majesty's arrival, the chorus, comprising 400 instrumental and 800 vocal performers of the various musical societies of the kingdom, in addition to two regimental bands, and the band of the Company, the whole under the direction of Signor Costa, will perform “God Save the Queen.”

On the Queen taking her seat, and when the music has ceased, the Directors of the Company will proceed to the dais, and the Chairman will read to her Majesty a short address, describing the origin and objects of the undertaking, which he will then deliver to her Majesty.

Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to return an answer.

[The presentation of medals and handbooks will follow.]

A Royal procession will then be formed in the following order:—

Superintendents of Works and Principal Employés.

Contractors.

Architects of Industrial Courts.

Principal Officers and Heads of Departments.

Directors.

Sir Joseph Paxton. Mr. Laing, M.P.

THE QUEEN.

H.R.H. The Prince Albert, the King of Portugal, the Royal Family, H.R.H. the Duke of Oporto, and their respective Suites.

The Archbishop of Canterbury. The Cabinet Ministers.

The Foreign Ambassadors and the Foreign Ministers.

The procession will turn to the right, move to the south end of the Nave by its west side, returning by its east side, and then pass round the east side of the Central Transept and down the north end of the Nave by its east side, returning by its west side to the Central Transept.

All persons not forming part of the procession will keep their places during it.

On the return of the procession her Majesty will again take her seat on the Dais, and the Ministers and Ambassadors will take their places as before.

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury will then say a prayer, asking God's blessing upon the undertaking, and the orchestra will perform the “Hallelujah Chorus.”

When the music ceases, her Majesty will declare “The Crystal Palace opened.” The orchestra will then perform “God Save the Queen,” during which her Majesty will retire.

The barriers which had kept the nave and transept clear will then be thrown open, and the public will be allowed to circulate throughout the Palace and Park.

#### BOOKS ON RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

Of these—almost the only books now published—some half dozen have found their way to our table; and having gone over them with an eye rather for new facts, or novel illustrations of old ones, than for literary merits or demerits, we may as well bring out here some of the results. The most fruitful is that of Mr. F. A. Neale, who has been for many years connected with the consular service in Syria, and puts together his valuable statements and suggestions under the too ambitious title—“Turkey Redeemed from Existing Abuses.” (Eyre and Williams). Certainly these “abuses” are neither few nor slight. They may all be summed up in one word, Monopoly. Turkey—at least, in those parts with which Mr. Neale is familiar—is cursed by the monopoly of power, of office, of produce, of commerce, and worst of all, the monopoly of justice. It is of the last reign he says, “Everything was made a monopoly, from the governor-generalship of Syria and Mesopotamia to the privilege of selling a handful of salt,” and the natural results of the sale of power he thus depicts:—

Let me now, to make this matter clearer, paint for your information the working of this baneful system in any one of the Pashaliks subject to the Ottoman sway, taking for example's sake the Pashalik of Aleppo, which embraces all that large tract of territory including the respective districts of Latakia, Antioch, Alexandretta, and the immense plains of the Amuk. To obtain the governorship of this district was, of course, a desideratum to any Turk possessed of wealth in Constantinople. I shall not say influence—for such a thing as influence unaccompanied by wealth, is unknown (or at least was unknown until the accession of Abdul Medjid) in Turkey. The Prime Minister privately put the appointment up to contention between a select party of wealthy aspirants; and the highest bidder was duly nominated Pasha of Aleppo. This man, though perhaps originally of the lowest origin, was duly installed in his office, and despatched to the seat of his government, under the stipulations of his monopoly, for which perhaps he has paid one hundred thousand piastres, or about £1,000 sterling. He agrees to remit to the Government of the Sublime Porte a certain annual revenue with authority to appoint all necessary officials, junior to himself, in office, to levy certain taxes, impose certain duties, and administer to the effects of subjects deceased within his jurisdiction. The Porte is careless as to whom he employs, or how he levies this money, so long as the promised revenue is forthcoming at stated periods; but it is a tacitly understood agreement, that upon the slightest complaint of any European Consul, or that if he do not maintain his position by frequent souvenirs in the shape of money, and other valuables, then the Pasha cannot hope to retain his post longer than a twelvemonth at the furthest; very few have remained at the same post three years; and five I believe is a term that not the best amongst them now attain. With this certainty before him, the Pasha assumes his new office, arriving accompanied by a large train of hangers-on, all of whom, for the consideration of board and lodging, serve, and have served the Pasha without rank or pay, but all of whom are now on the tip-toe of expectation and hope; nor are they disappointed. Mutzellems, or deputy governors; Defters, or accountants; and other minor offices, are soon filled from the number of his followers, and despatched to Anteb, to Kilis, to Antioch, to Beilan, to Jesirel shore, to Latakia, and other important towns. Now the Pasha acts by these officials exactly as the Porte has acted by him, with only this difference, that he cannot hope beforehand to receive any instalment of the quarterly revenue: he expects from these minor officials, simply because they are destitute of money. He knows well, however, that there is no risk incurred; and he empowers the Mutzellems of each respective minor district to monopolise the taxation and imposts of all the villages that come within his jurisdiction; stipulating only that he is to receive from each of them, say 70,000 piastres—seldom less, and oftentimes a greater amount. Now when we remember that the Pasha has some dozen Mutzellems under him, and that for the privileges he now enjoys, he originally paid 100,000 piastres, without going further into the matter, this at once makes him a gainer of about £8,000, and the Porte exactly thus much minus of what ought to have been paid into its treasury. But to pursue the subject, the Mutzellems, in their turn, dispose of still minor monopolies. Kekhials, or heads of Christians, and Sheiks, or heads of Mahometans, and Anasars, have to be nominated in every and the smallest villages, and the office is open to competition as far as regards money or gifts in landed property. Of course, the valuation of the office differs according to the population and wealth of the village; but when we remember that many of these Mutzellems have from fifty to a hundred villages, dependent upon them, some conception may be formed of the revenue reaped by the Mutzellems, even after they have added a considerable bonus to the stipulated quarterly amount payable into the Pasha's Exchequer.

As the Kekhials and Sheiks have in their turn to make a profit, grinding is the oppression they exercise upon their subjects and serfs, especially upon the Christians, “who,” says Mr. Neale, “have no hope of redress.” But political monopoly is only one of the two millstones between which the poor of silk-growing Syria are ground into piastres. The tax-gatherer is followed, as in India, by the forestaller and regrater:

We have seen that the peasants are invariably deeply involved in the debt of their masters; but the *apollators* of the silk monopoly are, if possible, a worse enemy to their welfare than even the Ayans themselves. About a month before the winter sets in, emissaries of these monopolists overrun all the villages, carrying with them bags of temptingly shining gold. At this critical season, the heavier taxes generally commence to be levied, because the grape and the oil harvest have been reaped, and the peasants are consequently supposed to be rather flush in money; and the result of these taxes is, that they are pinched for the means of procuring the necessary provisions which are usually purchased to supply the means of the peasant's family, and which consist of simply wheat, oil, butter, dried fruits, chilies, onions, garlics, a few pickles, and a jar or two of wine. If these are not supplied at the proper season, they cannot be purchased, save at three times the amount, when that season has passed over and the winter returns; consequently, it is of great importance to the peasant that he should, at any rate of interest, procure these necessary articles; but even their own immediate masters are usually involved in expenses at this period, and unwilling to advance them any further loans. The emissaries of the monopolists now make their appearance; the words are smooth, and tinged with honey, and they display to the tantalized gaze of the peasant heaps of gold. One, two, or three hundred piastres are at his disposal, according to the extent of the farm he cultivates: the only stipulation entered into by the money-lenders is, that the peasants bind themselves, by a written promise, to sell the extent of their next year's silk crop to the monopolists, at rates varying from forty to sixty-five piastres the rotolo, of five and a half pounds weight English, that is, about two-and-threepence sterling per pound weight. It is in vain that they protest against such a hideous sacrifice; the agents of the monopolists replace their gold in the sacks, and make believe as though they were careless as to the results of the pending bargain. What can the poor peasant do? He cannot consent to see his family starve, and he has no other legitimate means of earning the money requisite for his winter stock of provisions, consequently, he borrows as much as he really thinks necessary, and no interest is nominally charged upon the amount; and the peasant, in his simplicity, is half inclined to believe that the money-lenders are really honourable, virtuous men.

Early in May, next season, the golden-coloured silk is hung in rich festoons round the peasant's cottage, airing in the dry shade, to prevent its retaining any moisture. At length, after waiting and wondering for a fortnight or three weeks, no purchaser makes his appearance. The money-lender of last year is not forthcoming; but the peasant is bound down under a penalty to sell the produce to him, or to the agents of the monopolist, and to no one else. The consequence is, he is compelled to wait, though goodly offers are being daily made to tempt the peasant's honesty. June and July, with their great heats, have passed, and still no one appears to claim the silk, which by this time is as dry as a bone, and is, consequently, very much diminished in weight to what it was when first reeled off. This is exactly what the purchaser was waiting for. In every ten rotolos now purchased he is a gainer of one, in addition to the absurdly cheap rate he is paying; for whereas the peasant may have had for his share of the silk crop at first weighing, when the mousoom, or harvest, have just been completed, say thirty rotolos, he now finds, to his consternation, that this has been reduced, by the extreme dryness of the atmosphere, to twenty-seven, and in some instances only twenty-six rotolos, for which the current price in Antioch or Suedia is, for those who have afforded to wait, from ninety to one hundred and twenty piastres the rotolo, whilst he is only receiving on an average fifty. Thus, had he not been compelled by previous contract to dispose of this crop at the terms proposed and determined upon by the monopolist, he might, within the first week, have disposed of the whole of the silk crop, then weighing thirty rotolos, at an average of ninety piastres the rotolo, which would have yielded him the sum of two thousand seven hundred piastres, whereas he has now only twenty-seven rotolos to sell, and gets for these one thousand three hundred and fifty piastres, out of which he has to return some five or six hundred, money borrowed last winter. Thus on every side the peasant is beset by misfortunes: he toils and toils through years, and leaves off just one hundredfold worse than when he first commenced.

It will be seen, that though Mr. Neale writes in the present tense, he makes a distinction between the rule of Abdul Medjid and that of his predecessors. But he does not conceal, that to the peasants of Asia Minor the distinction is without a difference. The local aristocracy, he represents, as having heard read over and over again, “firmans concisely worded,” and as touching their turbans with the exclamation, “Certainly, by my head, the thing is to be done,”—but predestinating that it shall not be done. And so, he fears, it will continue, despite the exertion of European influence:—

Now by the last treaty just signed at Constantinople, it is asserted that the evidence of Christians is to be hereafter received in courts of justice. I have no doubt that it will be during the war, or so long as our troops remain in Turkey—possibly even after that it may remain in full force at Constantinople, and even at Smyrna,—but unless, mind you, there is a perfect revolution of affairs throughout the Ottoman empire, after that period things will go on precisely as they did before in Turkey in Asia, and if anything the Christians be subjected to worse treatment than they now complain of. Besides which, without a total reform, this isolated privilege would be productive of harm rather than good. One half of the Greek Arabs, though nominally Christians, are little better than perjurers—the other half are notoriously liars; and if cases are to be supported on their affirmations and oaths, a terrible confusion would ensue, and law-suits would be interminable.

What, then, is his scheme of Turkish redemption? It seems to be twofold—a standing army, composed of all the sects, and partly officered by Europeans, to en-



force in every corner of the empire the decrees issued from the capital; and the creation of a direct trade between England and Asiatic Turkey. On this latter point, he is more picturesque than precise; yet have his statements an air of accuracy and reliableness. It is thus that he would have us traffic calico for coffee.

Annually, at a stated season, the immense caravan of the Haddi or pilgrims, proceeding to the tomb of the Prophet in Mecca, passes through Gaza on route to Medina and Mecca. These caravans sometimes number from thirty to fifty thousand camels, horses and mules, carrying pilgrims, their harem, baggage, wafer, and provisions—an assembled multitude, that has gradually accumulated en route as the Haddi, leaving Constantinople, wends its way slowly over the plains of Asia Minor, through Cilicia, Syria and Palestine; so that, by the time the pilgrims leave Gaza, and make a final start across the desert, they have the appearance, and forcibly remind one, of the children of Israel travelling through the wilderness—for they take whole days to pass in review, and seem, apparently, as countless as the sand.

Now if these camels, instead of coming back empty as far as El Arish, and there loading salt, which barely covers the expenses of its carriage, came back with a ship-load or two of Mocha coffee, purchased on account of factors at Gaza, who, upon the guarantee of the head camel driver or chief of camel drivers, Katerga Bashi, at Aleppo, or Mossoul, had advanced three-fourths the valuation of the coffee ordered, then the transport of this coffee from the interior to the sea-shore would be, if any, almost a nominal expense; and the camel drivers would find it to their own interest to fetch the sacks of mocha berries in lieu of coming across the desert burthenless. In such cases, the cost of the coffee, as purchased in Gaza, would be naturally very much reduced; and, consequently, the purchasers could afford, at the same time that they were reaping an immense profit, to undersell every other coffee in the market. Competition there would doubtless be; but the supply would be hardly adequate to the demand; and those who had a knowledge of the natives and the language, would beat all competitors out of the field—as far, at least, as concerns the one staple commodity of commerce—coffee.

There is no reason why central Arabia, and the countries bordering the Red Sea, should be supplied with British manufactures second-hand, *via* India. Sent direct to Gaza, they would very soon penetrate into the remotest parts, and amongst the wildest people—their own chiefs coming to the mart biennially. As the Arabs about Baghdad and Mossoul come to Aleppo to barter or purchase European goods for produce, leaving a net profit of about thirty per cent. in favour of the European merchant; whilst the chiefs and sheiks, on their return to their own country, net, on an average, fifty per cent. clear gain to themselves—Gaza would, in course of years, rise up in opulence, and very soon surpass Beyrout, and Alexandria become the emporium of the commerce of Palestine.

Mr. Reynell Morell, has added to his already numerous productions on the war question, a tractate entitled, "Russia and England: their Strength and Weakness" (Tribner and Co.). Circassia, he contends, is the vulnerable heel of Russia—diplomacy, the withered arm whose impotence is English weakness. He describes with much animation the scenery and races of Circassia, and narrates with enthusiasm the exploits of Schamyl. Among his severest strictures on our Foreign-office policy, are, at least, some grains of salutary truth.

Dr. Wagner—"Schamyl and Circassia," (Routledge)—the German botanist, narrates of his hero one story more wonderful than of any hairbreadth escape or valorous adventure. It is almost incredible, but must not be withheld;—In the year 1843 (runs the story) the inhabitants of the Great and Little Tschenna, pressed by Russian troops, determined to send a deputation to Schamyl asking for help, or else for leave to send in their submission to the enemy. The ambassadors could not venture personally to speak to Schamyl of surrender, but in a round-about way, and by the help of bribery, they secured as spokeswoman the prophet's mother. Schamyl heard her out, and went into the mosque to inquire of Allah for the answer. After three days of prayer and fasting he came out and made this speech:—

"Inhabitants of Dargo! Fearful is that which I have to tell you! The Tschennas have conceived the horrible idea of submitting to the dominion of the Russians, and have actually dared to send ambassadors here with their vile proposition. Well these deputies know their evil doing; therefore they came not before me, but addressed themselves to my unhappy mother, who weakly gave way to their urgency, and brought the desires of these miscreants before me. My tender consideration for my beloved mother induced me to inquire of Mohammed himself, the Prophet of Allah, what his will might be. Therefore have I fasted three days and nights, with fasting and prayers, called upon the name of the Prophet, sustained by your prayers. He has esteemed me worthy of a reply. How horrible for me was his decision. According to the will of Allah the first who made this proposition known to me is to be punished with a hundred blows of the whip; and the first—that I have to tell it!—was my unhappy mother."

When the poor old woman heard her name mentioned, she broke into loud lamentations. But Schamyl was undisturbed. The Turks tore off the hair veil of the Khanum, bound her to a pillar, and Schamyl himself took the whip to execute the dreadful sentence. At the first stroke, however, the Khanum sunk to the ground dead. Schamyl fell at her feet amidst agonies of tears.

Suddenly he arose from the ground, and his eyes sparkled with joy. He arose, and said solemnly—

"God is God, and Mohammed is his prophet. He has heard my prayers, and allows me to take upon myself the reparation of my mother's sin; to which my poor mother was constrained by the weakness of her old age, and the kindness of my loving kindness."

Then he threw on his upper garments,

and commanded two Murids to give him the remaining ninety-five blows. They did so, and he never altered a muscle of his countenance.

The Rev. H. Christmas has contributed to *Shew's Family Library* a Memoir of the Life and Reign of Nicholas; written with a kindly bias towards the man, and a generous appreciation of some facts in his career, but a hearty detestation of the political system by which he is enthralled, and of the religious superstition which he has made subservient to his criminal designs.

The "Topic of the Day," Part I., is a collection of weekly papers (Judd, Gray's-inn-road) on the various branches of the great war question. Some of these papers are written with remarkable ability; and in all of them a healthy political sentiment predominates.

#### THE NATIONAL SOCIETY.

The anniversary meeting of the members of the National Society for promoting the education of the poor in the principles of the Church of England was held on Thursday, in the National School-room, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster. Among the noblemen and gentlemen present were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl of Romney, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Lyttelton, Lord John Thynne, Lord Rayning, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of Ripon, the Bishop of Lichfield, the Bishop of Chichester, the Bishop of St. David's, the Bishop of Gloucester, the Bishop of St. Asaph's, Mr. Adderley, M.P., Archdeacon Harrison, the Hon. and Rev. F. Sugden, the Hon. and Rev. H. Powys, Archdeacon Wigram, Archdeacon Sinclair, Archdeacon Bentinck, Mr. Alexander B. Hope, &c. The chair was taken by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who observed that the cause of education had been making steady progress, and that the National Society had fresh reason to be grateful for the success which had attended its operations. The friends of education all over the kingdom most thankfully allowed, that everything connected with the subject had taken a most palpable start, and that public attention appeared to be at length steadily directed to the importance of providing sound religious education for the people. In fact, education was proceeding in England at a rate which our forefathers could not have anticipated. This fact was proved by the report of the Census Commissioners, recently published. But, looking at counties with which he was himself acquainted, he found that in the 20 years from 1811 to 1831 the number of schools established in Cheshire was only 36; while in the 20 years from 1831 to 1851 the number of new schools established was 217. The schools established in Kent in the period between 1811 and 1831 were 85 (showing, however, an increase in the south over the north of England), while the number established from 1831 to 1851 was 284. The principle of training schools also was not known until 1838, but at present there were no fewer than 84 in the various dioceses from which the schools of the society could be supplied. The work of progress was also apparent in the system of inspection adopted. A few years ago no one dreamt of the inspection of schools, but now there was a perfect organization for the purpose, irrespective of the inspection under the superintendence of the Government. The report which they would now hear read would fully corroborate all he had said, and furnish additional reasons for supporting the society. The Secretary read the report, which stated that the amount collected under the Queen's last letter had not equalled that of former years, but was as much as could have been expected, considering the other pressing claims upon parishes in the cause of education. The sums received under the letter had been expended in aiding the erection and enlargement of schools and teachers' residences. Since the last audit the school building fund had assisted in the erection of 185 school-rooms, affording accommodation for 22,826 children, and also 86 teachers. The total number of schools now in union with the society amounts to 10,992, and of these 182 had been added during the last year. No alteration had been made in distributing the general fund of the society. The Westminster training institutions had sent out during the past year 63 masters and 88 mistresses. The receipts of the depository during 1853 amounted to £11,638, exceeding those of the previous year by £1,400. The report, having touched upon the progress made by the training schools in the provinces and the Diocesan Boards, concluded by expressing a hope that increased exertions on the part of the Church of England would enable her to supply the spiritual and intellectual wants of the rising generation. The Bishop of London moved a vote of thanks to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and congratulated the meeting that the National Society had returned to a state of peace. The proceedings then terminated.

#### THE LAW OF PARTNERSHIP.

At the meeting of the Society of Arts on Wednesday last, W. Tecker, Esq., in the chair, Mr. R. A. Slaney, M.P. for Shrewsbury, read a paper on "Limited and Unlimited Liability in Partnerships." The author commenced with an allusion to the course which he had taken in Parliament with regard to the investments of the middle and working classes; and also to the law of partnership. With reference to the report of the commissioners appointed last year to inquire into this question, he stated that though that report has not yet been made public, he believed it was generally known that it was hostile to limited liability, though in favour of charters at a cheaper rate. There was, it was believed, a difference of opinion and divisions in it on some important points. Still it was

a step in advance, for charters were recommended for many combined undertakings on easier terms than before. Having stated the general result of committees and works on the subject, he observed that the great preponderance of authority and names were now in favour of limited liability being permitted, under proper rules to prevent fraud; yet there were eminent names on the other side. These were chiefly eminent lawyers, great bankers, great capitalists, governors of the Bank—in short, either timid men, unwilling to move at all, or millionaires, or the representatives of the class of capitalists who were anchored and bound down to their present moorings by the weight of wealth they stood on. Hostile to all safe combinations and investment of limited capitals, millions of small and moderate sums were swept by force of circumstances, at low interest, into the hands or tills of these bankers or capitalists. By the same means the public funds, the only possible investment open to many, were kept at an unnaturally high price. We would contrast with those against the relaxation of the law, those for it, as among the latter would be found men of high statesmanlike views, desirous to give security to property, facilitating the peaceful acquisition by industrious multitudes, men who would encourage enterprise and ingenuity, by allowing them to be duly rewarded. Above all, you would find among them those who earnestly desire to improve the social condition of the middle and working classes—who wish to give them the true means to help themselves by forethought, frugality, skill, industry, and conduct—to create and preserve wealth, in which they were permitted to participate according to certain just and equitable rules.

Mr. Elliott said he would yield to no man in his intense sympathies for the working class, but he considered Mr. Slaney's resolutions to be of a dangerous nature, and as leading to immorality. Besides, the working part of the community did not ask for an alteration in the law of partnership. The great difficulty with most of them was to obtain savings for investment. The law was full, fair, and open. No statute, ancient or modern, was more equitable than the present one regarding partnerships. The whole country was full of undertakings for the safe investment of money. There was a gas company established about ten years ago in the City, £10 only each share, and giving ten per cent. There was the Necropolis Company, with shares of £10. The great object to the poor man was security in investing his little savings. Half the national debt was paid to persons who had not more than £20 per annum. The limited liability system had caused much distress in the United States, had not improved the condition of France, had been most disastrous in the Levant, and had destroyed all enterprising commerce in Italy. The discussion was adjourned till Monday next.

#### THE REAL STRENGTH OF AUSTRIA.

(From the Examiner.)

The Austrian accounts of the year 1853, recently published in the official papers of Vienna, show the results of governing Hungary and Italy by right of conquest, and not by consent and law.

The income of the Austrian empire amounted, according to the official statement, in 1853 to £23,713,700. The chief items are the following:—

Direct taxes	£8,472,000
The state domain, including the income from sequestrated property of refugees	606,700
Salt monopoly	2,517,800
Tobacco monopoly	2,146,700
Stamps	2,499,600
Custom-house revenue	2,072,800
Excise upon meat, spirits, and wine	2,395,000
Lottery	523,500

Now, comparing this with the expenditure, which by these returns amounted to £29,360,000, we have a deficit of £5,646,300, or, adding arrears which have been improperly included in the account, of £6,860,000. That is to say, the amount of the deficit rises to full thirty per cent. of the net income, for one of the first items of the expenditure is £2,600,000 for raising the revenue.

The principle items of expenditure are:—

THE ARMY	£11,773,000
Interest upon the funded debt	6,682,000
The Home Office	2,036,000
The police, the secret police included	1,036,000
The administration of justice	1,808,000
The Imperial court	676,000
Public works	1,528,000
The Foreign Office	186,000
The Audit Office	848,000
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND WORSHIP	462,000

These figures are more eloquent than volumes of speeches. The deficit exceeds the interest upon the funded debt. We see, therefore, that if Austria should at once declare herself bankrupt, and repudiate all obligations towards her creditors, she would still remain in an embarrassed position. But such a state of things is perfectly natural in an empire where the army absorbs more than one-half of the whole income of the state. In one year, 1853, the funded debt has been increased by £6,000,000. This year a new loan has been contracted for £3,500,000. The interest on the funded debt will, therefore, in the present year, exceed the sum of £7,000,000, or more than one-third of the regular income. The Austrian Government must, therefore, go begging for all the money needed of Europe, in order, if possible, for some months longer to prop up the tottering financial fabric of the empire, which still is misnamed a great power!

The real truth is, that as long as Austria keeps Hungary and Italy only by right of conquest, and requires soldiers, spies, and the hangman, to keep down insurrection, her political importance is imaginary. Should our public men persevere still in their endeavours to form an intimate alliance between this country and Austria, the people of England must look to their pockets. Austrian bank notes will not circulate beyond





her own frontier, and she has no reserve of bullion. In order that she may afford any efficient assistance to the allies, she will require enormous subsidies, as in the late war; when she joined the confederacy against Napoleon, only because, as he informed Metternich with more truth than politeness, "England bid higher than France."

### THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

The recent rains in the West of England have been succeeded by warm forcing weather, which has had a most gratifying effect upon the cereal and other crops. In Devonshire the wheat and barley are very fine, the latter being in ear in some parts of the county. The apple crop is not likely to be so abundant as was anticipated a short time ago; the blossom in many places having been severely injured by the recent frosty nights. Potatoes look very healthy, and there is every prospect of an abundant crop. The pasture fields have a most luxuriant appearance, the grass being both plentiful and rich. In Cornwall, also, the crops look promising, the late rains having had a surprising effect upon them. The wheat, which on clay soils looked thin before the rains, now presents a most luxuriant and healthy appearance. Some fine fields of wheat in the neighbourhood of Truro are already in ear. Farm stock and produce in both counties are selling at high prices, even being from 10s. to 11s. per bushel, and cattle from 10s. per score.

In Ireland harvest prospects are of a most cheering kind, the accounts which are received from all parts of the country concurring in representing the growing crops as progressing most favourably. It is remarked that there are symptoms of a recurrence of the potato disease in some quarters; but the unhealthy appearance of the aulm is by the sanguine referred to blight. On this subject the *Chronicle* observes—"The accounts which we continue to receive through our contemporaries from all the provinces in the kingdom are of a cheering description, notwithstanding the alarming rumour set afloat by those who, being of a nervous temperament, see famine in a withered blade of grass, misery in a blighted stalk of corn, and desolation in a crushed potato top. All our contemporaries, when speaking upon the agricultural proceedings carried on in their respective localities, agree in saying that there never was, at any period since the failure of the potato crop, a greater breadth of land planted under it than there has been this season, and that when the growth of the ecupulent has been tried, it is found to far exceed in size that which any idea could have formed of its former progress at this early period of the year."

### Court, Personal, and Official News.

The Court returned to town from Osborne on Tuesday afternoon. Next day, her Majesty held a Court; when the Chevalier Bunsen had an audience, and presented his letters of recall as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the King of Prussia. Sir James Graham also had an audience of the Queen. The Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, amused themselves at the Zoological Gardens in Regent's-park on Thursday. Her Majesty gave a concert on Friday night, at Buckingham Palace, to a large and distinguished company, numbering some 300.

The King of Portugal, and his brother, his Royal Highness the Duke of Oporto, arrived on Saturday morning at Buckingham Palace on a visit to the Queen. They were met at the private station of the South-Western Railway, at Nine Elms, by Prince Albert, and reached Buckingham Palace at half-past eleven. The visitors were received by the Queen at the door of the grand hall. In the afternoon the royal visitors called on the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Gloucester, and the Duchess of Cambridge. In the evening the Queen and her visitors went to the French plays.

The King of Portugal reached Southampton on Friday, in the steam-frigate *Mindello*, and disembarked in the docks early on the following morning. All the ships in the docks were handsomely dressed with flags, and as the Royal party stepped on shore the guns from the Platform Battery commenced firing a Royal salute. Dom Pedro V., of Portugal, who is nearly 17 years of age, was born on the 16th of September, 1837, and is said to be of exceedingly prepossessing manners and exterior, with the addition of intelligence, accomplishments, and great amiability. His brother, the Prince Dom Luiz Philippe (Constable of the kingdom), is a year younger, and was born on the 31st of October, 1838. The squadron was escorted as far as Cape Finisterre by the French war-steamer *Newton*. The King of Portugal and his brother are to stay a short time on a visit with Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, and will then proceed to France and Belgium, and to such other European Courts as they may be able to visit before the winter sets in, when their father, the King-Regent of Portugal, is anxious for their return to Lisbon. It is understood that the King will travel under the title of the Duke de Guimaraens.

On Monday morning the two Princes and their suites visited the London Docks and the Tower; in the afternoon, in company with Prince Albert, they inspected the New Houses of Parliament, and, in the evening, accompanied the Queen and court to the Philharmonic concert. The *Daily News* gives the following description of the young sovereign:—

The King is about 17 years of age, slenderly built and not in robust health, with light hair, blue eyes, and a fair complexion. He has the Austrian rather than the Coburg lip. He speaks English, French, and German, is skilled in music, and has given evidence of possessing eminent abilities. He is exceedingly affable, and speaks and looks as if no anxiety had affected the freshness of

his youthful confidence. His brother, the Duke of Oporto, is a remarkably interesting youth, about 15 years of age, fairer even than the King, and bears a great resemblance to his mother, Donna Maria, when, as a girl, she visited this country between twenty and thirty years ago.

It is reported that Government intend to bring the Parliamentary session to a close about the last day of June.

The *Gazette* of Friday night announces that the Queen has granted the usual *congé d'élire* to the Dean and Chapter of Bath and Wells, empowering them to elect a bishop in the room of the late Dr. Bagot; and recommending for election to the see Robert John, Lord Auckland, now Bishop of Sodor and Man.

The appointment of Captain Peter Richards to be one of the Lords of the Admiralty, is also announced. He succeeds the late Admiral Hyde Parker.

The Marquis of Lansdowne has defrayed the expenses of 150 persons emigrating from his Kerry estates to Canada.

The ceremony of inducting the new Bishop of Salisbury was performed on Wednesday, with the usual formalities. The Bishop first went in procession to a field near the city of Salisbury, and there received from Mr. Alford, receiver of the see, a turf, as a sign of the temporalities. Next the procession passed to the Chapterhouse, where the Bishop put on his robes; and thence marched to the Cathedral, preceded through the Close by choristers singing an anthem. In the nave of the Cathedral the oaths were administered; and subsequently, an anthem pealing through the aisles, the Bishop was conducted to the high altar by the Dean, where he knelt while the Dean prayed. "Te Deum" was then sung; and the procession, formed anew, marched back to the Chapterhouse.

The death of Agostini is announced. He was one of the most distinguished members of the Constituent Assembly at Rome in 1849. His age was only forty-one. An exile from the land of his birth for "Liberty's sake"—there is too much reason to fear that he died of a broken heart.

A public meeting took place on Wednesday evening last, in the Corn Exchange, Maidstone, in favour of the motion on the ballot about to be brought before the House of Commons by the Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley. At the request of the Maidstone Reform Association, Colonel T. Perronet Thompson, and E. C. Whitehurst, Esq., attended from the Ballot Association, and addressed the meeting, which was numerous and respectable. J. C. Stephens, Esq., a member of the town council, presided. A petition to Parliament was adopted with great cordiality.

An estimate has been presented of the charges for the collection of the revenue under Mr. Gladstone's new bill, amounting in all to £4,052,803. The leading details are—for the Customs and Coast Guard, £1,320,105; for the Inland Revenue Police in Ireland, £1,207,363; for the Post-office, £1,525,335. These estimates embrace the three kingdoms. The details appended are exceedingly minute.

From the 26th ult. the new sugar duties will be as follows:—On every hundredweight—16s. on candy brown or white refined sugar; 14s. on white clayed; 12s. on yellow Muscovado and brown clayed; 11s. on brown Muscovado; and 4s. 6d. on molasses.

The *Sheffield Independent* states that, among private papers of the late Mr. Montgomery, his will has been found. It bears the date of 1827. Among its legacies are the following to public objects:—The Moravian school Fulneck, £300; Moravian Missions, £300; Boys' Charity School, £50; Girls' Charity School, £50; Society for Bettering the Condition of the Poor, £50; Aged Female Society, £50; Boys' Lancasterian School, £25; Girls' ditto, £25; National School for Boys and Girls, £50.

The resolve to create a Minister of War will necessitate various changes. The name most generally mentioned for that new office is Lord Palmerston, and that either Sir G. Grey or Mr. Baines will become Home Secretary. If the Duke of Newcastle elects to retain the Ministry of War, either Lord J. Russell or Sir W. Molesworth will probably succeed to the Colonial office.

The Duke of Devonshire has been suffering from an attack of paralysis, but is now somewhat better.

Chevalier Bunsen's son (the Rev. H. G. Bunsen, M.A., Vicar of Lilleshall, Shropshire, and domestic chaplain to his Grace the Duke of Sutherland) has been appointed "Lecture Secretary" for the Church Missionary Society in the diocese of Lichfield.

The Commission of Insolvency, Ireland, vacant by the death of Mr. Baldwin, has been accepted by Mr. Hatchell, Q.C., late M.P. for Windsor, and Irish Attorney-General in Lord John Russell's Government.

A vote of £8,000 is to be proposed by Government for the obtaining of a complete system of agricultural statistics in Scotland, and to be carried out through the medium of the Highland Society.

On Sunday, Dr. Newman was duly installed at the church of the Conception, Dublin, as rector of the "Catholic University" of Ireland. Dr. Cullen, as the Papal legate, was, of course, present, and preached the sermon, and several other bishops assisted at the ceremonies.

### Law and Police.

There have been two actions for alleged false imprisonment tried during the past week. In the first of these cases—tried in the Exchequer Court—the plaintiff was a Mrs. Sager, wife of a fringe maker at Islington; and the defendant a cheesemonger, who had given her in charge for stealing a slice of bacon, worth a penny or twopence. The plaintiff was locked up all night, and discharged by the magistrate. She was very ill afterwards, through the fright and cold she had

endured. The learned judge left it to the jury to say whether a felony had been committed, and whether the defendant had given her in charge *bona fide*, believing that she was the thief. On another point, he gave the defendant leave to move for a new trial. The jury, after four hours' deliberation, were unable to agree, but, on being threatened with confinement through the night, returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages one farthing.

In the other case—tried in the Ball Court—a man named Levyson, who goes about selling steel pens, sued Mr. Broadhurst, surgeon of Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, and his wife. Levyson called at Mr. Broadhurst's twice in that gentleman's absence, and from his suspicious appearance, and resemblance to a man who had lately robbed Mr. Wells, a neighbouring surgeon, Mrs. Broadhurst gave him in custody. On Mrs. Wells' opinion that he was not the man who had robbed her husband, Mrs. Broadhurst desired his discharge, but the police detained him till they had made inquiries into his character. It was proved that he had given himself the airs of a gentleman, and announced himself as Mr. Levyson, of New York. A verdict was found for the defendant.

An action was brought in the Court of Common Pleas by the widow of a commercial traveller, to recover damages for the death of her husband, which was occasioned by the negligence of the defendant, who is a fishmonger at Hammersmith. A great deal of contradictory evidence was given, as to whether a boy was left in charge of the horse whose flight upset the gig in which the deceased was riding; but after a lengthened trial the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, with £65 damages, of which £35 was apportioned to the plaintiff, £20 to her son, and £10 to her daughter. An application for a new trial was made and refused.

At a further hearing, in the Court of Exchequer, of a case in which the Bishop of London is the nominal plaintiff, and the defendant has been guilty of some mysterious offence in administering the estate and effects of an intestate, there was quite a chorus of judicial censure on the state of the law. Thus:—

The Lord Chief Baron: It is impossible not to see, with pain, that in a matter involving an amount of £174, no less than three courts have jurisdiction, and these parties have been taken into all of them. This state of facts furnishes an apt illustration of the evils which may arise from such a condition of the law; and I think this a fitting opportunity to take such notice of it as may induce the channels of public information to draw the attention of the Legislature to the subject. I hope that the public attention may be given to this evil.

Mr. Baron Martin: It is really disgraceful that such expense should be incurred when all the points in dispute might be disposed of on a single summons. For twenty years this subject has been preached about and nothing done.

Mr. Baron Alderson: It has been discussed over and over again for one hundred and fifty years back. Here would be a subject for real and useful reform in the law; but now-a-days we do not introduce such useful reforms. If gentlemen would do that, instead of making flashy speeches about legal reform and doing nothing, such a state of things would long ago have ceased. No doubt these proceedings have continued until nothing is left for the parties.

Mr. Hayes, for the defendant, said that there was really left less than nothing. The whole question had become one of costs. His client was a defendant, and must follow where he was dragged.

Mr. Baron Alderson thought it was high time to leave off fighting.

It was ultimately agreed that counsel should be heard on the question of damages on a day to be settled between them, and the matter dropped.

This court has decided on the validity of a Church-rate, on a rule to show cause why certain Justices of the Peace in Leicestershire should not issue a distress-warrant to enforce the payment of a rate. In December, 1852, a vestry-meeting was held, and a rate of 4s. was agreed to. The object of the rate was to provide additional burial-ground, to drain St. George's chapel, and to spout St. George's chapel. One William Stinson contested the validity of the rate, and the justices made an order for the payment, but declined to issue a distress-warrant pending the contest as to the validity of the rate. It was argued that the rate was invalid, because the notice of the vestry-meeting to make it was given only on one Sunday instead of two; because no power existed to make a rate for the enlargement of a burial-ground; and because, if such power existed, by statute, a rate for that purpose could not be combined with an ordinary Church-rate. In favour of the rate, it was contended that the 24th section of the 69th George III, enacting that "no new additional burial-ground" should be purchased by means of rates when one-third in value of the proprietors of land, &c., dissented therefrom, was a statutable interpretation of the common-law duty of the churchwardens to keep the churchyard in a proper state for burials. Lord Campbell said, that no sufficient authority had been pointed out to make a rate for the enlargement of a burial-ground, though a statute might exist; but there is no common-law power to enlarge a churchyard. He decided against the rate on the last objection. The law does not sanction a joint rate for repairing the fabric and enlarging the burial-ground. The rate was therefore declared invalid; but without costs.

The case of *Lumley versus Gye* came up again in the Court of Queen's Bench on Thursday, when the Attorney-General showed cause against the rule which the plaintiff had obtained for a new trial. He disclosed nothing new on behalf of the defendant. The whole of his argument was directed to prove, that at the time Mr. Gye engaged Miss Wagner at Hamburg he had no knowledge that her agreement with Mr. Lumley was still subsisting; but the proof rested entirely on the testimony of Mr. Gye as to what passed at an interview between himself and Miss Wagner and her father, when the contract was made. The court



rose before Sir Frederick Thesiger could speak in support of the rule; and the case adjourned until Monday, when Sir Frederick, Sir F. Kelly, and other counsel, were heard. The three judges were of opinion that the rule must be discharged; and Lord Campbell finally dismissed the case with the remark, — *Interest rei publice ut sit finis litium.*

A remarkable case was tried, and a remarkable issue came to, in the Court of Exchequer on Monday—Sparkhall v. Maclean. It was an action brought by the plaintiff, who is a tailor in Cheapside, as drawer of a bill of exchange for £30 against the defendant, who follows the same business, and resides at 263, High Holborn, as acceptor of the bill, which was a renewal of a bill which had become due in December last. The defendant pleaded, that before he gave the acceptance the plaintiff accused the defendant of having been guilty of felony, and it was illegally agreed between the plaintiff and the defendant that, in consideration of the plaintiff forbearing to prosecute the defendant for the alleged felony, the defendant should accept certain bills amounting altogether to £200; and included in this amount was the original bill, on a renewal of which this action was brought. The jury retired at three o'clock, and at seven returned into court, saying they could not agree: the foreman alone held out. The foreman explained why he could not assent to find a verdict for the defendant; and Baron Parke endeavoured to convince him, but failing sent back the jury to their retirement. At twelve o'clock, there being still no chance of agreement, they were discharged.

A Liverpool sharebroker, named Forster, has been charged before the police magistrate with stealing a bank post-bill for \$1,000, and is under remand.

A man named Franklin is under remand on a charge of defrauding applicants for situations by obtaining from them money on false pretences. The first of several complainants at Marlborough-street was a respectable woman who had advertised for a situation as nurse. Franklin answered her advertisement, by offering her a situation on payment of half-a-crown. She paid the fee, but soon found that she had been hoaxed; and with commendable spirit made the complaint which led to Franklin's arrest.

An abandoned drunken woman, on leaving the prison in which she had spent six months for felony, went to her husband, from whom she had been previously separated, to claim the arrears of the allowance he had agreed to make her; and, on his refusal, so molested him that he gave her in charge. The magistrate heard their mutual recrimination, but decided that the money must be paid.

### Miscellaneous News.

A lad named George Walker, living at Northampton, has become a lunatic, as is alleged, from submitting two years since to the operation of electro-biology.

Mr. Gurney, Judge of the City Sheriffs' Court, has fined twenty-eight persons £10 each for non-attendance when summoned to serve on juries. Out of thirty-six only eight were present.

The quantity of guano imported in the last four years has been as follows:—In 1850, 116,925 tons; in 1851, 243,014 tons; in 1852, 129,889 tons; in 1853, 123,166 tons. Nearly all was from Peru.

The new railway station in New-street, Birmingham, a vast structure, was opened on Thursday, and the old one in Curzon-street closed. There is a roof four acres and a half in extent, two and a half acres of which are formed of glass.

The Judge of the Archdeaconry Court of Middlesex has decided that the late election for churchwardens at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, was invalid, on the ground that Mr. Liddell closed the poll at seven o'clock, thereby preventing persons from voting.

It has been decided in the Court of Queen's Bench, that the Linnean Society is *not*, and that the Zoological Society, in the Regent's-park, is, liable to poor-rates in respect of the premises they occupy—the latter being a proprietary concern from which profit is derived.

The Bishop of Winchester consecrated the new burial-ground for the parish of Lambeth on Tuesday. It comprises thirty acres of land, and is situated in Garrett-lane, between Tooting and the Wandsworth Road. Ten acres will be appropriated for the burial of Dissenters; the remainder for the burial of members of the Church of England.

Mr. Ballantyne's printing-office at Edinburgh has narrowly escaped. As the printers were locking the outer door at night, fire was seen in the drying-room; engines were quickly obtained, and the flames were confined to the drying-room. Some inconvenience will arise from delay in the publication of several new books, the sheets of which were consumed. Had the fire occurred a little later, in all probability the whole place would have been consumed.

A county of Down journal (the *Recorder*) gives a flattering account of the state and prospects of the agricultural interest in that quarter of Ireland. A Tralee paper (the *Chronicle*) states that at this moment there are at least 90 per cent. of the labourers of Kerry looking out for the remittance that is to pay there way across the Atlantic, or are living in the hope of sooner or later being able to reach the land of promise in the western hemisphere.

The great gathering of the children belonging to the charity schools of the metropolis, at St. Paul's Cathedral, took place on Thursday. There was full choral service, as usual; and Dr. Lee, Bishop of Manchester, preached the sermon. The novelty on the occasion was the unprecedented number of spectators, who occupied every place provided for them; while a crowd thronged the churchyard until the commencement of the service.

The engine-drivers on the Southern division of the North-Western Railway have demanded an increase in

the pay of those who have for a year been driving goods-trains as well as passenger-trains. A deputation waited on Mr. McConnell, at Rugby; and the demand is to be brought before the Locomotive Committee of the Company. On this line a new system has been partially tried, of working the engines by contract; the driver receives a fixed sum per mile, and coke and oil are supplied to him at cost price, while he is fined a shilling per minute if behind time by his own default. The plan appears to be advantageous both to the drivers and the company.

A deputation from the Temperance Society, consisting of Mr. George Cruikshank, Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Joseph Sturge, and several members of the Society of Friends, waited last week upon the directors of the Crystal Palace to remonstrate with the management against the contemplated arrangements for the sale of wine and beer within the building. The deputation had a long conversation with Messrs. Laing and Fuller, but did not, it is said, produce much impression on either of those gentlemen. The society not being satisfied with the result of their interview, have resolved to call the attention of the shareholders and the public generally to the subject, at a meeting to be held in Exeter Hall.

The past week has been remarkable for severe and fatal thunderstorms. Mr. Oldham, a surgeon of Alfreton, was struck dead by the lightning while driving a gig: a little boy sitting under the same umbrella that covered Mr. Oldham was unhurt. The horse suffered so much that it was necessary to kill it. At Kempsey, on the banks of the Severn, an old man named Wingfield, engaged in angling, was also struck by lightning under a pear tree, where his lifeless body was found. The body was almost naked, his clothes being burnt and torn from him, and portions of them were found in the tree. He had his fishing-rod firmly clinched in his hand. During a thunderstorm at Dublin, on Tuesday, a weaver was struck dead by lightning; he and his sister were standing close to the wall of a room as a position of safety, when the electric fluid struck the roof, ran down the wall, and killed the man, his sister remaining unhurt.

The progress made with the Educational Exhibition, which originated with, and is being carried out by, the Society of Arts, is highly satisfactory. The space applied for by exhibitors far exceeds that at the disposal of the society, notwithstanding the ample dimensions of the building (St. Martin's Hall) which has been hired for the occasion. Contributions are promised from France, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, and seven Swiss cantons; and from Malta articles have already arrived. At home, too, the prospects are most cheering. The principal educational societies have already determined to exhibit, and applications for space have been received from a very large number of private individuals, as well as publishers of books and makers of educational apparatus. The Council has fixed the opening of the exhibition for Tuesday, the 4th of July, when a *conversations* will be held, at which His Royal Highness Prince Albert, the President of the society, who has evinced great interest in the undertaking, has intimated his intention of being present.

A public meeting was held on Monday evening, at the Whittington Club, at the instance of the London Vegetarian Association, when several addresses were delivered on the principles and practice of vegetarian diet. The chair was taken by James Simpson, Esq., president of the association. The attendance was large and respectable. Addresses were delivered by the Chairman, Mr. John Smith (Author of "Fruits and Farinacea the proper food of man"), Mr. Borland, of Halifax, and Mr. John Noble, late mayor of Boston. The tenor of the general arguments was, that men could subsist and work quite as well, or indeed better, by foregoing animal diet; that butcher's meat was considerably more expensive than vegetables and farinacea; that all who tried the vegetarian system confessed they were better and happier for so doing; that the records of historical fact disclosed, on examination, that the hardest work of the world in all countries is, and ever has been, done on a vegetable diet; and that, taking man as a moral and spiritual being, flesh eating was highly detrimental to this, the most important part of his nature. The chairman declared, that after an abstinence of forty-two years from animal food, both the sight and the smell of it was most offensive to him. This seemed to have been the case also with Mr. Williams, the South Sea missionary, and his companions, who, after living, of necessity, several years on a vegetable diet, could endure neither the taste nor the smell of an ox which they had roasted in the expectation of enjoying a great treat. It was an undoubted fact, also, that vegetarians enjoyed uniform good health, and were far less liable to disease. When the cholera, for example, was committing its ravages in this country last year, and it was said that all the poor vegetarians would be swept away, not one of them was attacked. Fever and small-pox, too, which were produced by flesh-eating habits, were diseases from which the genuine vegetarian was wholly free. People sometimes were heard to remark, that they could not do this and the other kind of work without the flesh of animals; but if they would examine into the records of historical fact, they would find that the hardest work of the world in all countries is, and has ever been done, upon a vegetable diet; so that actual experience fully justified the vegetarians in the course they adopted and recommended to others. Mr. Smith said that he had practised the system eighteen years, and had experienced the most happy effects therefrom, bodily and mentally, and he had known some of the most striking instances of persons being completely restored to health from the very brink of the grave by becoming vegetarians. Other members of the society gave similar testimony. The proceedings terminated at half-past ten o'clock. The society, it appears, numbers close upon 1,000 members, who are employed in all kinds of labour.

### Literature.

*Autobiographic Sketches.* By THOMAS DE QUINCEY. Second Volume. Edinburgh: James Hogg.

THIS volume of autobiography and reminiscence by "the English Opium-eater," has been to us, as its predecessor was, a rare and rich delight. There is only one drawback to that delight, only one reservation in our praise: it is, that Mr. de Quincey has taken such unwarrantable liberties, as they seem to us, with the personal and private life of his contemporaries; making known to the public those peculiarities of character and habit, and minute details of domestic position and life, which could have become known to him only as the guest or friend of those about whom he writes. There is something like unfairness and indelicacy, and a violation of the sanctities of home and the privileges of hospitality, in some of these disclosures. At all events, if every celebrity were conscious that he received literary persons to his privacy and confidence at the risk of such a "showing-up" as Mr. de Quincey and some others after him (with less excuse and less decency,) have indulged the curious public with, he would take care to preserve a seclusion into which persons of such keen eyes and strong memories should not intrude. We will mention as justifying our reprobation, the passages in this volume relating to the wife of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, which contain perfectly useless and unnecessary revelations of petty but painful disharmonies; and which, had Mr. de Quincey been delicately considerate of others, would never have been suffered to appear. These passages, too, do not stand alone; they are only an instance of several similar offences. But we are glad, having said this, to lay the matter aside, and to speak, as we can, with indescribable pleasure of the rest of the volume, and of its self-revelation of an author whom we intensely admire and respect.

There are instances innumerable in this volume, of the excellences we have previously attributed to Mr. de Quincey's writings—of truly living portraiture, of subtle and profound criticism, of the most vivid and realizing presentment of scenes and passages of life, both common and uncommon, and of the strangest and most triumphant mastery of all the resources of language. There is no rival to Mr. de Quincey in his own walk, as a painter of character, a literary and historical critic, and a writer marked by a perfectly original manner. Out of the slightest possible materials he manages, with the aid of a various experience, a deep knowledge of human nature, and an inexhaustible acquaintance with literature (the most obscure and remote as well as the most familiar), to construct a story or an essay almost faultless as a composition, rich in poetry and philosophical suggestion, and the very digressions of which, indulged so oddly, yet treated so powerfully, are of more worth than the body of the writings of most men, even the highest, who have written with no more completeness of aim or constancy of effort than himself.

That some of our readers may share our pleasure over a few passages, and that others may be led to seek a book so charming and never old or wearisome for themselves, we make the following extracts. The first represents the more essay-like, serious, and profound portions of the book.

THE DIFFERENTIAL FEATURE IN CHRISTIANITY, AS TO ITS MORAL ASPECT.

"A second remark of mine was perhaps not more important, but it was, on the whole, better calculated to startle the prevailing preconceptions: for, as to the new system of morals introduced by Christ, generally speaking, it is too dimly apprehended in its great differential features to allow of its miraculous character being adequately appreciated: one flagrant illustration of which is furnished by our experience in Afghanistan, where some officers, wishing to impress Akbar Khan with the beauty of Christianity, very judiciously repeated to him the Lord's Prayer and the Sermon on the Mount, by both of which the Khan was profoundly affected; but others, under the notion of conveying to him a more comprehensive view of the Scriptural ethics, repeated to him the Ten Commandments, although, with the sole exception of the two first, forbidding idolatry and Polytheism, there is no word in these which could have displeased or surprised a Pagan, and therefore nothing characteristic of Christianity. Meantime my second remark was substantially this which follows:—What is a religion? To Christians it means, over and above a worship, a dogmatic (that is, a doctrinal) system; a great body of doctrinal truths, moral and spiritual. But to the ancients (to the Greeks and Romans, for instance), it meant nothing of the kind. A religion was simply a *cultus*, a *θρησκεία*, a mode of ritual worship, in which there might be two differences, viz.:—1. As to the particular deity who furnished the motive to the worship; 2. As to the ceremonial, or mode of conducting the worship. But in no case was there a pretence of communicating any religious truths, far less any moral truths. The obstinate error rooted in modern minds is that, doubtless, the moral instruction was bad, being heathen; but that still it was as good as heathen opportunities allowed it to be. No mistake can be greater. Moral instruction had no existence even in the plan and intention of the religious service. The Pagan priest or flamen never dreamed of any function like that of *teaching* as in any way connected with his office. He no more undertook to teach morals, than to teach geography or cookery. He taught nothing. What he undertook was, simply to do: viz., to present authoritatively (that is, authorised and supported by some civil community, Corinth, or Athens, or Rome, which he represented), the homage and gratitude of that community to



the particular deity adored. As to morals or just opinions upon the relations to man of the several divinities, all this was resigned to the teaching of nature; and for any polemic functions, the teaching was resigned to the professional philosophers—academic, peripatetic, stoic, &c. By religion it was utterly ignored.—The reader must do me the favour to fix his attention upon the real question at issue. What I say—what then I said to Lady Carberry—is this:—that, by failing to notice, as a *differential* feature of Christianity, this involution of a doctrinal part, we elevate Paganism to a dignity which it never dreamed of. Thus, for instance, in the Eleusinian mysteries, what was the main business transacted? I, for my part, in harmony with my universal theory on this subject—viz., that there could be no doctrinal truth delivered in a Pagan religion—have always maintained that the only end and purpose of the mysteries was a more solemn and impressive worship of a particular goddess. Warburton, on the other hand, would insist upon it that some great affirmative doctrines, interesting to man, such as the immortality of the soul, a futurity of retribution, &c., might be here commemorated. And now, nearly a hundred years after Warburton, what is the opinion of scholars upon this point? Two of the latest and profoundest I will cite:—1. Lobeck, in his "Aglaophamus," expressly repels all such notions; 2. Ottfried Mueller, in the 12th chapter, 24th section, of his "Introduction to a System of Mythology," says:—"I have here gone on the assumption, which I consider unavoidable, that there was no regular instruction, no dogmatical communication, connected with the Grecian worship in general. There could be nothing of the kind introduced into the public service from the way in which it was conducted, for the priest did not address the people at all." . . . What then was the great practical inference from the new distinction which I offered? It was this, that Christianity (which included Judaism in its germinal principles, and Islamism as its own adaptation [*sic*] to a barbarous and imperfect civilisation) carried along with itself its own authentication; since, while other religions introduced men simply to ceremonies and usages, which could furnish no aliment or material for their intellect, Christianity provided an eternal *palæstra* or place of exercise for the human understanding vitalised by human affections: for every problem whatever, interesting to the human intellect, provided only that it bears a *moral* aspect, immediately passes into the field of religious speculation. Religion had thus become the great organ of human culture.

How effectively Mr. De Quincey can tell even a slight story, may be seen in the following anecdote of

SHERIDAN.

"Viscount Belgrave, eldest son of Lord Grosvenor, had been introduced by his family interest into the House of Commons; he had delivered his maiden speech with some effect; and had been heard favourably on various subsequent occasions; on one of which it was that, to the extreme surprise of the House, he terminated his speech with a passage from Demosthenes—not presented in English, but in sounding Attic Greek. Latin is a privileged dialect in Parliament. But Greek! It would not have been at all more startling to the sages of the House, had his lordship quoted Persic or Teling. Still, though felt as something verging on the ridiculous, there was an indulgent feeling to a young man fresh from academic bowers, which would not have protected a mature man of the world. Everybody bit his lips, and as yet did not laugh. But the final issue stood on the edge of a razor. A gas, an inflammable atmosphere, was trembling sympathetically through the whole excited audience; all depended on a match being applied to this gas whilst yet in the very act of escaping. Deepest silence still prevailed, and, had any common-place member risen to address the House in an ordinary business key, all would have blown over. Unhappily for Lord Belgrave, in that critical moment up rose the one solitary man, to wit, Sheridan, whose look, whose voice, whose traditional character, formed a prologue to what was coming. Here let the reader understand that, throughout the 'Iliad,' all speeches or commands, questions or answers, are introduced by Homer under some peculiar formula. For instance, replies are usually introduced thus:—

'But him answering thus address'd the sovereign Agamemnon;'  
or, in sonorous Greek:—  
'Ton d'apameibomenos proseph' kreion Agamemnon;'  
or, again, according to the circumstances:—  
'But him sternly surveying saluted the swift-footed Achilles;'  
'Ton d'ar, upodra idon, proseph' podas okus Achilleus;'

This being premised, and that every one of the audience, though pretending to no Greek, yet from his schoolboy remembrances was well acquainted with these formulae as with the Scriptural formula of *Verily, verily, I say unto you*, &c., Sheridan, without needing to break its force by explanations, solemnly opened thus:—

'Ton d'apameibomenos proseph' Sheridanios heros.'

Simply to have commenced his answer in Greek would have sufficiently met the comic expectation then thrilling through the House; but, when it happened that this Greek (so suitable to the occasion) was also the one sole morsel of Greek that everybody in the assembly understood, the effect, as may be supposed, was overwhelming, and wrapt the whole House in what might be called an explosion of fiery laughter."

More than half of this volume is taken up with Reminiscences of Coleridge, Wordsworth, and Southey. The paper on Coleridge is too generally known for extract to be necessary: but we may say that its notorious exposure of that great man's plagiarisms is here vindicated in a lengthy note, from attacks which we, who love Coleridge and delight to sit at his feet, certainly think were somewhat unfair and severe towards De Quincey. As many persons seem to be excessively ill-informed as to both the real character and extent of the charge against the poet-philosopher, and the final opinion of "the detective" De Quincey, we give the last word of the latter—though not wholly agreeing with it—on

THE PLAGIARISMS OF COLERIDGE.

"Had then Coleridge any need to borrow from Schelling? Did he borrow in *forma pauperis*? Not at all: there lay the wonder. He spun daily, and at all hours, for mere amusement of his own activities, and from the loom of his own magical brain, theories more gorgeous by far, and supported by a pomp and luxury of images, such as Schelling—no, nor any German that ever breathed, not John Paul—could have emulated in his dreams. With the riches of El Dorado

lying about him, he would condescend to fish a handful of gold from any man whose purse he fancied; and in fact reproduced in a new form, applying itself to intellectual wealth, that maniacal propensity which is sometimes known to attack enormous proprietors and millionaires for acts of petty larceny. . . . Dismissing, however, this subject, I will assert finally, that after having read for thirty years in the same track as Coleridge—that track in which few of any age will ever follow us, such as German metaphysicians, Latin schoolmen, thaumaturgic Platonists, religious mystics—and having thus discovered a large variety of trivial thefts, I do, nevertheless, most heartily believe him to have been as entirely original in all his capital pretensions as any one man that ever has existed; as Archimedes in ancient days, or as Shakspeare in modern. Did the reader ever see Milton's account of the rubbish contained in the Greek and Latin Fathers? or did he ever read a statement of the monstrous chaos with which an African Qbeahman stuffs his enchanted scarecrows? or, to take a more common illustration, did he ever amuse himself by searching the pockets of a child—three years old, suppose—when buried in slumber after a long summer's day of out-door's intense activity? I have done this; and, for the amusement of the child's mother, have analysed the contents, and drawn up a formal register of the whole. Philosophy is puzzled, conjecture and hypothesis are confounded, in the attempt to explain the law of selection which *can* have presided in the child's labours: stones, remarkable only for weight, old rusty hinges, nails, crooked skewers, stolen when the cook had turned her back, rags, broken glass, tea-cups having the bottom knocked out, and loads of similar jewels, were the prevailing articles in this *procs verbal*. Yet, doubtless, much labour had been incurred, some sense of danger, perhaps, had been faced, and the anxieties of a conscious robber endured; in order to amass this splendid treasure. Such in value were the robberies of Coleridge; such their usefulness to himself or anybody else; and such the circumstances of uneasiness under which he had committed them."

From the chapter on Wordsworth we must quote a passage, which illustrates the author's manner of portrait-painting, and his habit of digressing, suddenly and on the least pretence, into any subject suggested by his narrative that is at all interesting to him:—

WORDSWORTH'S FACE; WITH AN EPISODE ON *faces*, AND A MINOR DIGRESSION ON YOUNG LADIES' eyes.

"It was a face of the long order, often falsely classed as oval; but a greater mistake is made by many people in supposing the long face, which prevailed so remarkably in the Elizabethan and Carolinian periods, to have become extinct in our own. Miss Ferrier, in one of her novels ('Marriage,' I think), makes a Highland girl protest that 'no Englishman with his round face' shall ever wear her heart from her own country; but England is not the land of round faces; and those have observed little, indeed, who think so: France it is that grows the round face, and in so large a majority of her provinces, that it has become one of the national characteristics. And the remarkable impression which an Englishman receives from the eternal recurrence of the orbicular countenance proves of itself, without any conscious testimony, how the fact stands; in the blind sense of a monotony, not felt elsewhere; lies involved an argument that cannot be gainsaid. Besides, even upon an *à priori* argument, how is it possible that the long face so prevalent in England, by all confession, in certain splendid eras of our history, should have had time, in some five or six generations, to grow extinct? Again, the character of face varies essentially in different provinces. Wales has no connexion in this respect with Devonshire, nor Kent with Yorkshire, nor either with Westmoreland. England, it is true, tends, beyond all known examples, to a general amalgamation of differences, by means of its unrivalled freedom of intercourse. Yet, even in England, law and necessity have opposed as yet such and so many obstacles to the free diffusion of labour, that every generation occupies, by at least five-sixths of its numbers, the ground of its ancestors. The moveable part of a population is chiefly the higher part; and it is the lower classes that, in every nation, compose the *fundus*, in which lies latent the national face, as well as the national character. Each exists here in racy purity and integrity, not disturbed in the one by alien inter-marriages, nor in the other by novelties of opinion, or other casual effects, derived from education and reading. Now, look into this *fundus*, and you will find, in many districts, no such prevalence of the round orbicular face as some people erroneously suppose: and in Westmoreland, especially, the ancient long face of the Elizabethan period, powerfully resembling in all its lineaments the ancient Roman face, and often (though not so uniformly) the face of Northern Italy in modern times. The face of Sir Walter Scott, as Irving, the pulpit orator, once remarked to me, was the indigenous face of the Border: the mouth, which was bad, and the entire lower part of the face, are seen repeated in thousands of working men; or as Irving chose to illustrate his position, 'in thousands of Border horse-jockeys.'

"In like manner, Wordsworth's face was, if not absolutely the indigenous face of the Lake district, at any rate a variety of that face, a modification of that original type. The head was well filled-out; and there, to begin with, was a great advantage over the head of Charles Lamb, which was absolutely truncated in the posterior region—sawn off, as it were, by no timid sawyer. The forehead was not remarkably lofty: . . . whatever it may appear in any man's fanciful portrait, the real living forehead, as I have been in the habit of seeing it for more than five-and-twenty years, is not remarkable for its height; but it is, perhaps, remarkable for breadth and expansive development. Neither are the eyes of Wordsworth 'large,' as is erroneously stated somewhere in 'Peter's Letters'; on the contrary, they are (I think) rather small; but *that* does not interfere with their effect, which at times is fine, and suitable to his intellectual character. At times, I say, for the depth and subtlety of eyes, even their colouring (as to condensation or dilution), varies exceedingly with the state of the stomach; and if young ladies were aware of the magical transformations which can be wrought in the depth and sweetness of the eye by a few weeks' walking exercise, I fancy we should see their habits in this point altered greatly for the better.—I have seen Wordsworth's eyes oftentimes powerfully affected in this respect; his eyes are not, under any circumstances, bright, lustrous, or piercing; but, after a long day's toil in walking, I have seen them assume an appearance the most solemn and spiritual it is possible for the human eye to wear. The light that resides in them is at no time a superficial light; but, under favourable accidents, it is a light which seems to come from unfathomed depths: in fact, it is more truly entitled to be held 'The light that never was on land or sea,' a light radiating from some far spiritual world, than any the most idealizing that ever yet a painter's hand created. The nose,

a little arched, and large; which, by the way, has always been accounted an unequivocal expression of animal appetites organically strong. And that expressed the simple truth. Wordsworth's intellectual passions were fervent and strong; but they rested upon a basis of preternatural animal sensibility diffused through all the animal passions (or appetites); and something of that will be found to hold of all poets: who have been great by original force and power, not (as Virgil) by means of fine management and exquisite artifice of composition applied to their conceptions. The mouth, and the whole circumjacent features of the mouth, composed the strongest feature in Wordsworth's face; there was nothing specially to be noticed, that I know of, in the mere outline of the lips; but the swell and protrusion of the parts above and around the mouth, are both noticeable in themselves, and also because they remind me of a very interesting fact which I discovered about three years after my first visit to Wordsworth."

The fact referred to is, the nearly perfect resemblance of Wordsworth to the well-known portrait of Milton by Richardson. We may add, in concluding, that this volume extends over that period of the author's life which includes his opium-eating; but that episode is here passed over, as sufficiently described in the "Confessions." It is spoken of only as an "impassioned parenthesis of my life," which has occasioned "dreadful remembrances."

*Christology of the Old Testament, and Commentary on the Messianic Predictions.* By E. W. HENGSTENBERG, Dr. and Professor of Theology in Berlin. Second Edition, greatly improved. Translated by the Rev. THEODORE MEYER. Vol. I. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

THE "Christology" was the work by which Hengstenberg first gained that reputation as a theologian and biblical scholar, which his whole subsequent life has more than sustained, by heaping-up the evidences of his unsurpassed ability, and rare and profound learning. Notwithstanding some repugnance and difficulty felt by him in returning to his first work, for the reconsideration and revision of that which he regarded as finished and laid aside, he found it impossible to suffer a new edition of it to be supplied to the students who were demanding it, without subjecting it to an entire reconstruction and a considerable extension. To himself this "juvenile performance," regarded from the point of view supplied by the advanced scholarship and maturer judgment of after years, seemed almost "a stranger;" and it was absolutely necessary that its reintroduction, after being long out of print in Germany, should be accompanied by reference to all that had been done for the subject since its first appearance, and should incorporate the fruits of new research and ripened thought. Thus it has happened, that one-half the work had to be wholly re-written, and the other to be revised line by line. Some matters that were formerly deemed important have been omitted as now superfluous; and thus room has been found for the enlarged discussion or new examination of topics requiring a profounder and more comprehensive treatment.

The present arrangement of the work differs from the former edition, in removing the general investigations which constituted the Introduction, to the close of the discussion and commentary on the Messianic Prophecies; thus, first, furnishing and testing the materials themselves, and then, erecting the general conclusions, historically or theologically significant, for which such materials are available. This first volume is occupied with the Commentary on those Messianic passages, in their historical order and connexion, which occur in the Pentateuch, the books of Joshua and Samuel, the Psalms, the Song of Solomon, and the first six of the minor Prophets; together with the History of the Interpretation. We need neither indulge in remark on the depth, subtlety, and great value of these Commentaries, nor attempt to represent them by extract. The former edition of the work, known to many of our readers by Dr. Ruel Keith's translation, if not in the original itself,—and the great celebrity of the author, whose Expositions of the Psalms and the Apocalypse have found almost universal acceptance, and conferred incalculable benefit on theological and biblical students in this country,—will secure the entrance of this work into the library of every minister and educated man, who desires to be deeply conversant with that element of the Hebrew Scriptures which is the unifying power in them, and in the divine dispensation and national history of which they are the records.

Hengstenberg considers that serious dangers threaten Scientific Theology in our day; through the exclusive occupation of the church, and of many of the noblest minds, in works and problems of an immediately practical interest. Whether it be so in England, to any unusual extent, we cannot say; but we fully believe, with him, that "a general decay will gradually be brought on," if, to "a zeal, noble, indeed, but little thoughtful," the interests of "solid theological learning are sacrificed." We rejoice that a catholic culture and a philosophical spirit should distinguish the public ministry of the Gospel; and we can never consent to spare those who fling such epithets as "rationalism," "neology," and so forth, at every one who passes the bounds of their own sectarian bigotry or



stolid ignorance. More breadth of thought and a freer spirit in the theology and pulpit ministry of the church, there is still room for, and still shall be welcomed by us. But we sometimes see reason to fear, that there is just now a tendency to under-rate purely biblical scholarship, to sacrifice a profound acquaintance with the Scriptures to expertness in other learning; and among some, to substitute a semi-philosophical mysticism, or among others, a wholly external practical activity, for the deep and faithful Bible studies which (on any theory of its authority and inspiration, that permits it to be regarded as pre-eminently containing a "Word of God" for the world,) should be first and chief, alike with the teacher of religion and the truly religious man. The "Christology" of Hengstenberg is a work which must operate both to increase an interest in biblical studies, and to extend and strengthen their foundations. It equally delights and instructs us. It opens up to us the inner meaning and true beauty of the prophecies: it assists us to see more clearly the significance of the elder dispensation. It interprets to us, and makes us feel the fitness and power of the forms under which the redeeming efficiency and kingship of Christ are conceived, and the language by which they are represented, in the New Testament. We congratulate, therefore, the publishers and the public that it appears just when wanted, and that it commences a New Series of Messrs. Clark's valuable Theological Library.

*The Repentance of Nineveh; a Metrical Homily on the Mission of Jonah. With an Exhortation to Repentance, and some smaller pieces.* By EPHRAIM SYRUS. Translated from the Syriac, with Introduction and Notes, by the Rev. HENRY BURGESS, Ph.D. London: R. B. Blackader.

"A Sermon in metre!"—the very notion will seem ridiculous to many: yet not perhaps to those who consider that it is an Oriental production, that it has a warrant in the writings of the prophets, and that the man who, in this case, attempted the work had true genius as well as true religion among his qualifications. We will presume that our readers are acquainted with Dr. Burgess's valuable and most interesting volume of selections from the "Hymns and Metrical Homilies of Ephraim Syrus," and that they know *who* this worthy of the ancient church was, and what is the history of his writings. If they do not, we beg them at once to repair to that volume, and to follow it up with the present: for there are very few pieces of the literature of the early church rendered into English, that have so much to attract, or furnish so much to interest the Christian reader. These works have a literary interest which will be universally felt; a religious worth and power that will embalm them for the church of all ages; and possess a claim on scholars, to whom, by the valuable notes of the translator, they are made to bear important aids to the study of Syriac.

"The Repentance of Nineveh" is a production of singularly mingled characteristics, but having wonderful beauty and impressiveness. It is at once a noble exposition of the Book of Jonah, a deeply true portrayal of the exercises and experiences of the human heart in passing through spiritual transition, a grand descriptive poem, and a solemn and powerful sermon: call it either, you do so truly; say it is *all*, and, incongruous as it may seem, you then alone do it justice. The few lines that follow will exhibit its manner and spirit.

"When compared with that repentance,  
This of ours is like a dream;  
In the presence of that supplication,  
This of ours is but a shadow;  
Compared with that humiliation,  
This of ours is but the outward form."

Old men sprinkled themselves with ashes;  
Aged women plucked and threw away  
Their grey hairs, which were their honour,  
Putting upon themselves degrading suffering.  
When the youths looked upon their old men,  
They wailed louder in their anguish;  
Aged men wept for the youths,  
The fair supports of their old age.  
They mourned that they should be buried together,  
The buriers and those about to be interred.  
The heads of chaste men and women  
Became bald through their mourning.

The mother rose up in the midst,  
And her beloved ones surrounded her,  
Clinging to the borders of her garment,  
That she might save them from death.  
The young child, at the sound of the earthquake,  
Fled for refuge to his mother's breast;  
And in the bosom of its nurse,  
The suckling hid itself with terror.  
Day dawned, it became night, and they numbered  
The days which every hour shortened;  
As the days departed they counted them;  
And as each day ended they groaned aloud,  
Because it was subtracted from their life.  
For with the day as it declined,  
Their breath also was departing."

The smaller pieces are also very remarkable; but have a more subdued and pathetic tone than generally

prevails in the Homily. Dr. Burgess has prefixed to the volume an introduction, in which he ably investigates the origin and intention of these works of Ephraim, criticises their merits, and gives the history of their text, so far as it can be ascertained. Such labours as this translation deserve to be gratefully received, and warmly acknowledged; and we confidently hope that Dr. Burgess will find his volumes thus accepted and welcomed by scholars and the public.

*Rome, Regal and Republican. A Family History of Rome.* By JANE MARGARET STRICKLAND. Edited by AGNES STRICKLAND, author of "Lives of the Queens of England." London: A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

This volume is the first of a series, designed to present the history of Rome "in all its stages of conquest, civilization, literature, and art, exhibiting its struggles for constitutional liberty, its ages of national virtue—the gradual growth of luxury, its passage to absolute despotism, its revival with Christianity, and its decay and final fall." Such a work, adapted expressly "to family use," and to the "mass of the British people," was felt by the author to be "an actual want;" and she has devoted "a considerable portion of her life to supply it." Guided by this special purpose, the book has been planned so as to include full accounts of the private life of the most celebrated men of the successive periods, whether warriors, statesmen, orators, or otherwise eminent; and has been purged of all details that might prove pernicious, or that are unsuited to family reading. Still further, to make this history a profitable and interesting one, it is intended to comprise in its last era, the history of the Christian Church in the Roman empire, "its trials, struggles, moral and civilising influence, charity, final triumphs, and unfortunate declension from its pristine purity of doctrine and simplicity of practice." The combination of these features in any work on Rome, from a reputable author, would commend it to general notice; but when the name of Strickland introduces it, and the editorship of a practised and justly eminent historical writer like Miss Agnes Strickland guarantees it, some confidence will be felt that the execution of the work is worthy of the purpose it avows and the plan on which it is written. If such tests be applied to it as we are accustomed to use in the case of learned and exhaustive histories, like Grote's, or Arnold's, or Thirlwall's—or even such as are suitable to school and college histories, like Schmitz's, or Dr. William Smith's—it is true that this volume may be esteemed but lightly, or pronounced superfluous. But if its special aims be kept in view, and its realization of them be judged, not by the examination of a few pages here and there, but by the whole view given of a particular period—of its general characteristics, social and political, of its spirit and tendency, of its great incidents and its public men—say, for instance, the period and personal lives of the Gracchi, and the fall of the democracy of Rome—then, we think, the work must be very highly commended as full and distinct in its information, and vivid and picturesque in its style. Indeed, for its own particular place in the family and among the unlearned, and as having a practical and didactic character, it is as eminently excellent as are some of those we have already named, in their peculiar places, in the libraries of students and scholars. Accordingly, we are prepared to give it a strong approval and commendation, which certainly would have been less strong had we made a more superficial acquaintance with the book, or criticised it more hastily.

Miss Strickland has divided her history into four eras; of which she speaks in her introduction as if they had been already named to her readers. But we find only the earlier two, included in the title, anywhere mentioned:—Rome Regal, the era of myth and tradition; and Rome Republican, an era of many parts, a great drama of many acts, both brilliant and terrible, which closed with magnificence in conquest abroad, and with liberty lost at home. The remaining eras of Rome's history, the Imperial and the Christian as they will probably be named, are to be treated in following volumes; and we hope they may be hastened by the success of the portion now before us. We anticipate much from them, considering the sound judgment and careful execution of this commencement, and the deep interest imparted to its narrative. Not only does the author exhibit an intelligent and familiar knowledge of Niebuhr, Arnold, and the older writers, and conscientiously refer to their pages when using them as authorities; but she also makes an admirable use of Plutarch and Livy, such as must be founded, we think, on an independent and sincerely diligent study of their writings.

*The Poetical Works of William Cowper.* With Life, Critical Dissertation, and Explanatory Notes. By

the Rev. G. GILLILLAN. Vol. I. Edinburgh: James Nichol.

This first instalment of the second year's issue of the Library Edition of the Poets, is the most portly and handsome looking volume of the series thus far. It has been thought desirable to comprise Cowper's works in two volumes; so these are thicker than the average standard, and will be compensated for by some of the others being comparatively thinner. A good octavo edition of Cowper, in large type and of superior appearance, is what no one has ever seen before, and what many have a good while longed for. Variety in the reprints of a poet so popular, and so dear to many religious people who read scarcely any poetry besides, is most desirable; and we have had it to a considerable extent, in Southey's edition, with life and letters, in Grimshawe's similar but less valuable publication, in "pocket editions," and lastly, in Bohn's reprint of Southey's edition. But an octavo, containing the poetry only, in which all eyes may read, and which is really a library book, has been greatly wanted, and is now most admirably supplied. It is sure to be most warmly welcomed.

Mr. Gillillan's Life of Cowper has been written, we can well believe, with "singular emotion." It was sure to be written in an appreciative and loving spirit; and it is also discriminating and thoughtful. We do not think it as full a sketch as most will wish it, or as it might usefully have been by a little compression in some parts and the introduction of new facts. By the way, why does not Mr. Gillillan read a little more carefully?—what has induced him to transform the well-known old-fashioned Huntingdon into Huntingtown, in every place in which it is named?

The Notes are but few; few only were requisite; and those such as should simply explain, by a word or the briefest reference, the allusions in the text. But so great is the interest attaching to the circumstances of the composition of Cowper's poems, that these might have been briefly narrated in *prefatory* notes, with advantage and pleasure to the reader: especially as the Life has not much detail on these points. The "Critical Dissertation" on the genius of the poet is to precede the second volume.

We see with satisfaction, that Mr. Nichol pledges himself to issue complete works in each year, and to maintain the average quantity of paper and type. Besides Cowper, this year's issue will include Butler, 2 vols., Shenstone, 1 vol., and Blair, Bruce, Logan, Beattie, and Falconer, 1 vol. There is everything in the present performance and promise of editor and publisher fully to sustain the reputation of the series.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

- Questions Mosaiques. By Osmond de Beauvoir Priault. J. Chapman.  
Types of Mankind. Rolt and Giddons. Trubner and Co.  
Bokings: a Novel. By Morton Rae. Hookham and Sons.  
Christianity: Theoretical and Practical. By William Kirkus. Jackson and Walford.  
Pictures of Genius. By Thomas Bullock. Methodist New Connexion Book-Room.  
The Lady Una. Longman and Co.  
Ultima Thule. By Thomas Cholmondeley. J. Chapman.  
Calvin's Treatise on Relics. Johnstone and Hunter.  
The English Poets. Vol. II., Cowper. J. W. Parker.  
Dr. Maddock on Affections of the Nervous System. Simpkin and Co.  
The Land of Sinim. M. Macphail, Edinburgh.  
Sketches of Scripture. By Viscountess Hood. J. W. Parker.  
The Evangelical System. By Rev. J. Stock. Heaton and Sons, Leeds.  
Poor Paddy's Cabin. Wertheim and Macintosh.  
The Pope, the Anti-Christ, and the Church of Rome. W. Carson, Dublin.  
Biographical Memoirs of Friends. Vol. I. W. F. and G. Cash.  
New Testament Synonyms. Trench: Macmillan and Co., Cambridge.  
The New Testament Commentary. Part II. Tallant and Allen.  
Vestiges of Divine Vengeance. Tayler. Wertheim and Macintosh.  
Gleanings from a Pastor's Portfolio. Houlston and Stoneman.  
Peace in Believing. Arthur Hall and Co.  
The Ballad of Babe Christabel. D. Bogue.  
Political Portraits.—The Governing Classes. Trubner and Co.  
Russia and England. Trubner and Co.  
The Doomed Bank. N. Theobald.  
Axioms for Architects. B. Green.  
The Second Epistle of Peter. Translated by the American Bible Union. Trubner and Co.  
The Sermon on the Mount. Longman and Co.  
The Journal of Progress. May. G. Bell.  
The Northern Tribune. June. Bailon, Newcastle.  
The Teacher's Offering. June. Ward and Co.  
The Mother's Friend. June. Ward and Co.  
The Anti-Slavery Advocate. June.  
The Bible and the People. June. Ward and Co.  
The Evangelical Magazine. Ward and Co.

Lord Melbourne once said, in hearing of Sir Bulwer Lytton, that "he rejoiced to have been Prime Minister, for he had thus learnt that men were much better, much more swayed by conscience and honour, than he had before supposed."



"May I say Mary?" "No! she trust name a k'ng." One of the boys spoke up, and said—"John." "Right," cried the inspector: "he was the worst—and why?" "Because, sir," the lad made answer, "he put down his crown at the feet of the Pope." The inspector, finding that there was no escape from Popery, gave it up. Dr. McNeile is said to have told the story "in proof of the impossibility of giving historical teaching without religion."

At a recent meeting in Liverpool, the Rev. Dr. McNeile told a story, with great glee, of the visit of a reverend inspector to his school. The inspector, anticipating that King John would be named, asked one of the lads who was the worst king that had ever reigned in England. The answer was—"James the Second." The inspector, venturing no farther in this direction, turned to another child, and repeated the question. "Henry the Eighth" was now the answer. The reverend querist put the question—"Why?" "Because he wrote a book in favour of Popery." A girl was next tried; and her reply was a question:

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City. Tuesday evening.

The Board of Trade Tables for the month ending the 5th of May, exhibit less favourable results than on the two previous occasions, the declared value of our exports presenting a falling off of £747,527 as compared with the corresponding month of last year. The month of May, 1853, however, was remarkable from its having shown the unprecedented increase of £2,309,995 over May, 1852, and a diminution on the present occasion was therefore to be expected. The articles chiefly affected have been those connected with

In the general business of the port of London during the past week there was great activity. The number of arrivals was 286, being twenty over those of the previous week. The total quantity of grain reported was 53,640 quarters, including 24,338 quarters of wheat; in addition to 7,050 barrels and 2,396 sacks of flour. Of sugar there was reported 1,972 hogsheads, 1,028 casks, 2,636 cans, 41,188 loaves, and 98,060 bags; of tea, 8,315 packages; of tallow, 710 casks; of rice, 56,493 bags; and of coffee, 6,899 bags and 1,538 casks. The number of vessels cleared outward, was 118, being 15 less than in the previous week. Of these, 21 were in ballast, and 97 as above stated, for the Australian colonies. The total of vessels on the berth loading for these colonies on the 1st inst. was 123, being 30 more than at the same date last month. Of those now loading, 16 for Adelaide, 10 for Geelong, 11 for Hobart Town, 4 for Launceston, 10 for Melbourne, 7 for New Zealand, 27 for Port Phillip, 4 for Portland Bay, 1 for Perth (Western Australia), and 24 for Sydney.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
\$ per St. Consols	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2
Consols for Ac-	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2
\$ per Cent.	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2
New 3 per Cent.	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2
Annuities	90 1/2	90 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2
India Stock	233	236				
Bank Stock	204 1/2	204 1/2		206		204 1/2
Exchange Bills	3 p.m.	3 p.m.	4 p.m.	5 p.m.	5	5 p.m.
India Bonds	par	par				
Long Annuities	4 1/2-16	4 1/2-16	4 1/2-16		4 1/2-16	4 1/2-16

## BANK OF ENGLAND

ISSUE DEPARTMENT

Notes Issued	\$ 36,012,300	Government Debt	11,075,160
		Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	12,015,300
		Silver Bullion	—
	<u>\$36,012,300</u>		<u>\$36,012,300</u>

**BANKING DEPARTMENT.**

2		2	
Proprietors' Capital.	14,537,000	Government Securities	9,856,250
Res.	3,527,045	Debt - (Including	
Public Deposits	2,489,944	Dead Weight Annuity)	15,441,900
Other Deposits	10,383,180	Other Securities	5,562,710
Seven Day and other		Notes	728,500
Bills	1,026,415	Gold and Silver Coin	
	231,579,534		231,579,534

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier  
Dated the 1st day of June, 1884.

Friday, June 2nd, 1854.

This "Gazette" contains a notice that the following place has been duly registered for the solemnization of marriages therein: Bethel Chapel, Begunldy, Radnorshire.

**BANKRUPT.**

PRENTICE, R. G., High-street, Shadwell, and Tachbrook-street  
Pimlico, grocer, June 13, July 12: solicitors, Messrs. Wilde, Rees  
Humphreys, and Wilde, College-hill, City.

SHUTTLEWORTH, G. E., SHUTTLEWORTH, M. H., and SHUTTLEWORTH, G. E., the younger, Poultry, auctioneers, June 14, July 19: solicitors Messrs Crowder and Maynard Coleman street.

18 BOLLASON, G. J., Birmingham, brass founder, June 14, July 13  
S, solicitor, Mr. Partridge, Birmingham.

SHAPCOTT, J. P., Preston Plucknett, Somersetshire, wood  
dealer, June 8, July 6; solicitors, Messrs. Slade and Vining,  
Yeovil; and Mr. Terrell, Exeter.

HOWARD, J., Levenshulme, near Manchester, grocer, June 11.  
July 12: solicitor, Mr. Dawson, Manchester.  
HARTLEY, H., Trowden, near Colne, cotton manufacturer, Jan.

14 and July 7; solicitors, Messrs. Rowley and Son, Manchester.  
GLADSTONE, M., and BOND, J. C., Manchester, general brokers  
June 16 and July 3; solicitors, Messrs. Worthington and Earle.

PATERSON, E. Preston, draper, June 10 and July 7; solicitor  
Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester.

WORMALD, J., Gloesep, shoemaker, June 14 and July  
solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester.

PARRY, H., Change alley, billbroker, second div. of 2s. 3d.,  
Wednesday next and two subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee

brokers, first div. of 17-16d., on Wednesday next and two su



sequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Moorgate-street.—CARTMORN, W., jun., Salisbury-wharf, wine merchant, second div. of 4s. 11d., on Wednesday next and two subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Moorgate-street.—GIBSON, J., Nottingham, carrier, first div. of 3s., any Saturday, at Mr. Harris's, Nottingham.—L.S.A. R., Grantham, draper, first div. of 11d., any Saturday, at Mr. Harris's, Nottingham.—M'COLM, Manchester, waste dealer, first div. of 6d., on Tuesday, June 20, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Fraser's, Manchester.—GROVE, J., Manchester, warehouseman, first div. of 6s., on Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Fraser's, Manchester.—HUTCHINGS, R., Monkwearmouth Shore, shipbuilder, first div. of 1s. 6d., on Saturday, or any subsequent Saturday, at Mr. Wakley's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—DUFFIELD, W. M., Heavitree, commission agent, first div. of 1s. 2d., any Tuesday or Friday, at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter.—STANIS, R., Truro, draper, second div. of 3s. 2d., any Tuesday or Friday, at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter.—MANFIELD, J., Lyme Regis, ship-builder, first div. of 4s., any Tuesday or Friday, at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter.—WOODS, J., Buckfastleigh, Devonshire, miller, first and final div. of 3s. 3d., any Tuesday or Friday, at Mr. Hirtzel's, Exeter.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.  
ROBERTSON, G., Plains of Thornton, Forfarshire, contractor, June 13.  
URS J., and Son, Glasgow, calendarers, June 13.  
BAIRD, D., Tharbo, merchant, June 14.  
FURDIE, A., South Knapdale, Argyllshire, innkeeper, June 13.

Tuesday, June 6th, 1854.

BANKRUPT.  
LANE, J., and GALSWORTHY, J., Queen's-road, Peckham-builders, June 13, July 20; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Sizelane.  
TAYLOR, T., Hove, Sussex, carpenter, June 13, July 20; solicitor, Mr. Jones, Quality-court, Chancery-lane.  
STANLEY, M. T., North-road, Nottingham, licensed victualler, June 13, July 22; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Sizelane.  
STANLEY, H., Northumberland-place, Commercial-road, and elsewhere, bookmaker, June 16, July 21; solicitor, Mr. Story, Great James-street, Bedford-row.  
WHEAT, B., Fleet-street, and St. James's-walk, Clerkenwell, bookseller, June 17, July 22; solicitor, Mr. Clark, Finsbury-place North.  
SWALKIN, R., Bedford-place, Commercial-road East, and Salmon's-lane, Lambhouse, grocer, June 13, July 19; solicitors, Messrs. Hill and Mathews, Bury-court, St. Mary-axe.  
STEVENS, T. B. B., Pall-mall, bill broker, June 20, July 18; solicitors, Messrs. Emmet and Son, Bloomsbury-square.  
KIRKALDY, R. A., Fenchurch-street, stationer, June 20, July 18; solicitors, Messrs. Wright and Bonner, London-street, Fenchurch-street.  
HILL, J. J., High-Holborn, ironmonger, June 20, July 18; solicitors, Messrs. Lewis, Wood, and Street, Raymond's-buildings, Gray's-inn.  
CLEMENTS, R., Millbank-street, Westminster, coal merchant, June 14, July 23; solicitors, Messrs. Hillery, Fenchurch-buildings.  
CROWTHER, J., and W. DICKINSON, jun., Manchester, Manchester warehousemen, June 19, July 7; solicitors, Messrs. Whitworth, Manchester.  
BATE, W., Manchester, baker, June 20, July 19; solicitor, Mr. Dawson, Manchester.  
HAMPTON, L., Dukinfield, beer seller, June 19, July 17; solicitors, Mr. Slater, Manchester; and Mr. Gartside, Ashton-under-Lyne.  
WERNALD, J., Glossop, shipmaker, June 14, July 6; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester.  
MARRS, A. M., Birmingham, manufacturing chemist, June 30, July 13; solicitors, Messrs. Mottram and Knight, Birmingham.  
BURNBURY, W., Leicester, tailor, June 23, July 11; solicitor, Mr. Spenser, Leicester.  
BATES, J., Sheffield, draper, June 17, July 29; solicitors, Messrs. Pys, Smith, and Whitman, Sheffield.  
ROBINSON, T., Leeds, draper, June 16, July 29; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester; and Messrs. Richardson and Gant, Leeds.  
MACINTYRE, J., Taunton, nurseryman, June 15, July 13; solicitor, Mr. Roister, Taunton.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.  
CLABSON, S., Stapleford, Cambridgeshire, newspaper proprietor, first div. of 2s. 8d., on Thursday next and the three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street.—BARNES, W., Hungerford, auctioneer, first div. of 3s. 10d., on Wednesday, June 7, at Mr. Edwards's, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.—CHOWN, H., St. Swin's-lane, wine merchant, first div. of 1s. 3d., on Wednesday, June 7, at Mr. Edwards's, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.—FRANKS, G., Blackfriars-road, surgeon, first div. of 2s. 4d., on Wednesday, June 7, at Mr. Edwards's, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.—MANCE, N., Worcester, brewer, first div. of 3s. 8d., on Wednesday, June 7, at Mr. Edwards's, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.—BAXTER, R., Wisbeach, St. Peter, carrier, first div. of 3s. 3d., on Wednesday, June 7, at Mr. Edwards's, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.—WHEELER, W., Clebury Mortimer, Salop, miller, first div. of 5s. 1d., any Thursday, at Mr. Christie's, Waterloo-street, Birmingham.—THOMAS, J., Leeds, dyer, first div. of 2s. 4d., any day, at Mr. Young's, Leeds.—LEWIS and Co., H. Halifax, wine merchants, second div. of 3d., any day, at Mr. Young's, Leeds.—BRUNTON, W., Bradford, joiner, first div. of 1s., any day, at Mr. Young's, Leeds.—THOMAS, W., jun., Haworth, worsted spinner, second div. of 2s. 2d., any day, at Mr. Young's, Leeds.—HERVEY, J., Halifax, share broker, second div. of 3d., any day, at Mr. Young's, Leeds.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.  
PUSSELL, W., Edinburgh, woollen draper, June 13.  
GENTLE, J., Edinburgh, teacher, June 13.  
BROWN, A., Glasgow, baker, June 13.  
SIMPSON, J., Edinburgh, baker, June 16.

## Markets.

MARK LANE, LONDON, MONDAY, JUNE 5.  
There was very little English Wheat on sale this morning, but with foreign we continue to be well supplied. The stands were cleared of English Wheat, and for foreign there was more enquiry for the country trade at last Monday's prices. Flour sold slowly at last week's quotations. Barley very dull and 1s. to 2s. per qr. cheaper. Beans and Peas firm. We had a large supply of foreign Oats, and the sale was difficult at 6d. to 1s. per qr. less than on Monday last. The current prices are under.

SEEDS, Monday.—The trade for seeds continues without variation, except for canaryseed, which continues in short supply, and with a little improvement in demand, obtained an advance of 2s. per quarter this morning.

### BRITISH SEEDS.

Linseed (per qr.) ..... sowing —s. to 76s.; crushing 60s. to 64s.  
Linseed Cakes (per ton) ..... £10 0s. to £10 10s.  
Rapeseed (per qr.) ..... 70s. to 80s.  
Ditto Cakes (per ton) ..... £6 15s. to £7 5s.  
Cloverseed (per cwt.) ..... (nominal) ..... 00s. to 00s.  
Mustard (per bush.) while new 10s. to 14s., brown old 10s. to 13s.  
Coriander (per cwt.) ..... new 10s. to 15s., old 10s. to 15s.  
Canary (per qr.) ..... 44s. to 50s.  
Carraway (per cwt.) ..... new 42s. to 44s., old 44s. to 48s.  
Turnip, white (per bush.) —s. to —s. Swede 24s. to 38s.  
Trefol (per cwt) ..... 18s. to 24s.  
Cow Grass (per cwt.) ..... 65s. to 76s.

Although the supply of linseed is very moderate, the demand for that article is very inactive. In other seeds very little is doing. Cakes are held at full quotations; but the business doing in them is comparatively small.

HOPS, BOACON, Monday June 5.—The increase of fly and vermin throughout the hop plantations has been very great during the past week, and the accounts received this morning are still unfavourable. Hops of all descriptions are, in consequence, in good demand, and more money is obtained, particularly for choice samples, which are now very scarce.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 11d.; and household do., 8d. to 9d. per 4lb. loaf.

### BUTCHERS' MEAT, SMITHFIELD, MONDAY, JUNE 5.

The show of foreign stock in to-day's market was tolerably good. A steamer has arrived this morning from Spain with 250 oxen on board, in fair average condition. There was a decided increase in the arrival of beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts, and we noticed a decided improvement in their general weight and quality. For all breeds we experienced a slow sale at a decline in the prices obtained on Monday last of 2d. per 8lbs., and a total clearance was with difficulty effected. A few very superior Scots realized 5s. 2d. per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire, we received 2,250 Scots and shorthorns from other parts of England 500 of various breeds, and from Scotland 450 horned and polled Scots. We were tolerably well, but not to say heavily, supplied with most breeds of Sheep. On the whole, the Mutton trade was firm, and last week's quotations were well supported. The best old Downs realized fully 5s. per 8lbs. Lamb, the supply of which was good, moved off slowly, at 6d. per 8lbs. beneath last Monday's currency. The top quotation was 6s. per 8lbs. The supply of Calves was extensive. A fair average business was transacted in them at Friday's decline in price. The highest figure was 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. For Pigs we had a slow sale on former terms.

	Per 8lbs. to sink the offal.				
	s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.		
Coarse and inferior	3 6 3 8	Prime coarse wool-	4 4 4 6		
Beasts	3 10 4 2	led Sheep	4 4 4 6		
Second quality do.	4 4 4 8	Prime South Down	4 8 5 0		
Prime large Oxen	4 10 5 0	Sheep	4 8 5 0		
Prime Scots, &c.	3 6 3 8	Large coarse Calves	4 2 4 10		
Coarse and inferior	3 6 3 8	Prime small do.	5 0 5 4		
Sheep	3 10 4 2	Large Hogs	3 0 4 2		
Second quality do.	3 10 4 2	Neat small Porkers	4 4 4 8		

Lambs 4s. 10d. to 6s. 0d.  
Suckling Calves, 22s. to 29s.; and quarter-old store Pigs, 21s. to 27s. each.

NEWCASTLE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, June 5.—The high pretensions of the salesmen have had the effect of inducing great caution on the part of butchers in general, who have purchased for immediate wants only, as follows:—

	Per 8lbs. by the carcass.				
	s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.		
Inferior Beef	3 2 3 6	Small Pork	4 4 4 8		
Middling do.	3 8 3 10	Inferior Mutton	3 2 3 6		
Prime large do.	4 0 4 2	Middling do.	3 8 4 4		
Do. small do.	4 2 4 4	Prime do.	4 4 4 8		
Large Pork	3 6 4 4	Veal	3 8 4 10		

Lambs, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.  
TALLOW, LONDON, Monday, June 5.—Our market has become somewhat firmer, and prices have an upward tendency. P.Y.C. on the spot is quoted at 62s. per cwt. Town Tallow is 59s. per cwt., net cash. Rough Fat, 3s. 3d. per 8lbs.

	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.
Stock	25,986	26,250	40,774	24,300	35,592
Price of Y.C.	36s. 9d. to 37s. 6d.	37s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.	37s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.	37s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.	37s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.
Delivery last week	725	1,144	740	1,135	923
Ditto from 1st June	955	1,144	630	623	563
Arrival last week	1,202	861	776	2,715	963
Ditto from 1st June	1,287	861	776	1,609	155
Price of Town	38s. 0d.	38s. 0d.	38s. 9d.	49s. 3d.	61s. 0d.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, June 5.—A few old potatoes have changed hands at from 150s. to 190s. per ton. New ones, the supply of which is moderate, are in request at from 20s. to 27s. per cwt. Last week's imports were 120 tons; 1,005 bags from Rotterdam, 27 casks from Lisbon, 8 baskets from Guernsey, and 253 sacks from Dublin. The new potatoes are coming to hand in excellent condition.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday, June 5.—There was a further decline in the value of Irish Butter last week of 4s. to 6s. per cwt., without leading to any business worth notice. Foreign was also a slower sale, and prices 2s. to 6s. lower as in kind and quality. The demand for Bacon was less active, but no alteration in value either of Irish or American sides and middles. Hams and lard nearly stationary.

	s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.
Friesland per cwt.	94 to 96	Cheshire (new) per cwt.	66 to 80
Kiel	94 98	Cheddar	68 80
Dorset	100 104	Double Gloucester	60 70
Carlton	—	Single do.	60 70
Waterford	—	York Hams (new)	76 84
Cork (new)	84 94	Westmoreland, do.	72 82
Limerick (old)	—	Irish do.	66 76
Sligo	—	Wiltshire Bacon (green)	66 68
Fresh, per doz. 11s. 0d. 13s. 0d.	—	Waterford	66 67

COALS, Monday.—An advance on last Friday's market, with a general sale. Stewart's, 19s. 6d.; Hettons, 19s. 6d.; Haswell, 19s. 6d.; Lambtons, 19s.; R. Hettons, 19s.; Belmont, 18s.; Hough Hall, 18s.; Bell's Primrose, 16s.; Hartley's, 19s. 6d.; Wylam, 18s. 6d.; Tanfield, 18s. 6d.—Fresh arrivals, 150.

OILS, Monday.—We continue to have a very inactive demand for common fish oils, at barely last week's quotations. Pale Seal has changed hands at £42 10s., but Spermaceti not to purchase. On the spot, Linseed is quoted at 37s. to 37s. 3d., and 40s. for autumn delivery. Rape is 6d. lower. Cocoa-nut is quoted at 48s. to 50s., Palm 44s. to 44s. 6d. per cwt. Turpentine is offering on lower terms.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, June 3.—Forced fruits continue plentiful, and, owing to the late rains, vegetables are improving. Excellent new Grapes may be bought for 10s. per lb. Cherries realize from 2s. to 8s. per lb. French Strawberries have made their appearance in large quantities. Apples are nearly over for this season. Cucumbers vary from 3d. to 1s. each. New Potatoes are not quite so plentiful this week as they were last; they fetch from 16s. to 30s. per cwt.; old ones are still in demand. Asparagus continues to come in at from 3s. to 5s. per hundred. Carrots and Turnips are cheaper. Good Broccoli is scarce. Some good French Cauliflowers have made their appearance. Among salad vegetables are Radishes at from 1d. to 2d. per bunch; Lettuces at 9d. to 1s. per score, and Endive at 1d. to 2d. each. There are also excellent Carrots, Globe Artichokes, and Peas from France; likewise Tomatoes at from 9s. to 12s. a dozen. Cut flowers consist of Carnations, Azaleas, Cyclamens, Hyacinths, Heaths, Tulips, and Roses.

WOOL, CRY, Monday.—The imports of wool into London last week were large, including 2,851 bales from Port Phillip, 1,512 from the Cape of Good Hope, 2,009 from South Australia, and 890 bales from Germany, Italy, &c. There is no disposition shown on the part of dealers in general to increase their stocks. As the supply of English Wool in first hands is large; and, as money is tight, combined with the comparative heaviness in the Colonial Wool sales concluded on Thursday, great difficulty is experienced in effecting transactions, and our quotations are almost nominal.

	s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.
South down Hoggets	.. .. 1 0 1 1	Half-bred Ditto	.. .. 1 0 1 1
Ewes clothing	.. .. 1 0 1 1	Kent Fleeces	.. .. 1 0 1 1
Combining Skins	.. .. 0 11 1 0	Flannel Wool	.. .. 0 10 1 3
Blanket Wool	.. .. 0 7 1 1	Leicester Fleeces	.. .. 0 11 1 1

### HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, May 27.

Market Hides, 56 to 64 lbs.	.. .. 0 2 1 0	3 per lb
Ditto 64 to 72 lbs.	.. .. 0 3 0 0	
Ditto 72 to 80 lbs.	.. .. 0 3 0 3	
Ditto 80 to 88 lbs.	.. .. 0 3 1 0	
Ditto 88 to 94 lbs.	.. .. 0 3 1 4	
Horse Hides	.. .. 6 6 0 0	each.
Calves Skins, light	.. .. 2 0 3 0	
Ditto, full	.. .. 5 6 0 0	
Kents	.. .. 7 0 8 0	
Downs	.. .. 5 0 6 3	
Lambs	.. .. 2 0 3 0	
Shearings	.. .. 1 6 1 7	

## Advertisements.

**EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES,**  
King-street, Leicester.—The MISS MIALI, whose School has been established for many years, continues to receive a limited number of Young Ladies for BOARD AND EDUCATION. They will have VACANCIES FOR PUPILS after the Midsummer Vacation.

TERMS, THIRTY-FIVE GUINEAS PER ANNUM.

The best masters are engaged for French, German, Drawing, Music, Singing, and Deportment.

References: Rev. G. Legge, LL.D., Leicester; Rev. J. Sutcliffe, Manchester; Rev. J. G. Miall, Bradford; and E. Miall, M.P., Sydenham Park, London.

A vacancy for an articled Pupil.

**NOTICE OF REMOVAL.—ESTABLISHMENT FOR YOUNG LADIES, OAKFIELD, Accrington, Lancashire.**—Mrs. LINGS, who has successfully conducted the above establishment for several years, intends to remove, at Midsummer, to FLEETWOOD. Terms: Twenty-four to twenty-eight guineas per annum. ParLOUR BOARDERS thirty-five guineas per annum. Facilities for SEA BATHING. Referees:—Rev. W. Scott, Alredale College, Bradford; Rev. J. Spence, M.A., Poultry, London; Rev. A. Fraser, M.A., Blackburn; Rev. R. S. Scott, M.A., Manchester; Rev. A. Howson, Hartlepool; and the parents of pupils.

### THE TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION

will hold the following SINGING SERVICES (as conducted at Finsbury Chapel by the Rev. John Curran) during the months of June and July:—

DATE.	PLACE.	TO PRESIDE.
Tuesday, June 13,	Borough-rd. Chapel.	Rev. J. G. Pigg, B.A.
" "	20, Craven Chapel.	Rev. J. E. Ashby, B.A.
" "	27, Ditto.	Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A.
Wednesday, July 5,	Islington Chapel.	Rev. B. S. Hollis.
Tuesday " 11,	Barnsbury Chapel.	Rev. T. Leasey.

In order to the proper enjoyment of these services, no person will be admitted without a Book of the Words, which may be had, price 6d. each, of Messrs. Ward and Co., Paternoster-row, and of various booksellers in the respective neighbourhoods, or at the doors of the chapels on the evenings of meeting.

### ECLECTIC REVIEW.—Many of our

readers are probably aware that a change is contemplated in the editorship of our Journal. This step has resulted from the pressure of other engagements, which compels one of the present editors to relinquish the post which he has occupied since 1836; and his associate, between whom and himself the most cordial co-operation has uniformly existed, retires with him. Arrangements have been made for the future conduct of the "Eclectic" which cannot fail to be satisfactory to the friends of pure literature, Scriptural Voluntaryism, and Evangelical Christianity. This arrangement, however, will not take effect until January, 1855. We are not at liberty at present to name the individual on whom the editorship will then devolve. We should gladly do so, and are assured that all our readers would heartily concur in the propriety of the selection. In the interim, we shall continue to discharge the duties of the editorship as heretofore, in doing which additional stimulus will be derived from a consideration of the high talents and well-merited reputation of the gentleman to whom the Journal will then be transferred.

The proprietorship of the work continues unchanged, and no expense will be spared which may be needed to maintain and greatly to extend its usefulness.

THE EDITORS.

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